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"FEELING THE PATIENT'S PULSE."—(FROM THE PICTURE BY H. SCHLESINGER, IN THE PRUSSIAN GALLERY AT THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.)

CLOSE OF THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.

THE Emperor of the French has certainly fulfilled the intention attributed to him in the spring, not to go to war with anyone, under any pretext, until after the close of the Paris Exhibition. But it is remarkable that the dinner at the Hôtel du Louvre, which marked the finish of the affair, coincided, almost to an hour, with the departure of the French troops for Civita Vecchia. It was decided, some weeks ago, that the Exhibition, instead of being put out, should be allowed to go out quietly; and the Commissioners' dinner was the only important ceremonial pointing to the fact that the end had at last arrived. The period during which the Exhibition has lasted has certainly been one of peace; but its first moments were troubled by the Luxemburg difficulty, and its last ones by the Roman question. Lord Granville, at the Commissioners' dinner, took the trouble to say that he, for one, had never believed that international exhibitions would have the effect of putting a stop to war. In fact, international exhibitions begin and end, but human passion remains; and if more ingenuity has been shown in one department than in another of the Exhibition just closed, it is in that of firearms and of warlike implements generally. International exhibitions may or may not be signs of a progress towards peacefulness, but they have hitherto been, above all, noticeable for the progress they have shown in the mode of constructing deadly weapons. They do good in their way undoubtedly, but not the good that was expected from them when, now sixteen years ago, they were first started.

While the Exhibition of Works of Industry was taking place in the Champ de Mars, the Emperor Napoleon has had his own little exhibition of Kings and Emperors at the Tuilleries, at Compiègne, and at St. Cloud. He ought to know by this time what chance he has of making terms with Russia on the Eastern question, with Prussia on the Rhine question, and with Austria on the German question generally. To roll these three questions into one would, probably, be rather difficult; but the Emperor will have taken each separately, and on each a man so full of "ideas" as he is known to be must have had something very important to say. France feels it necessary, we believe, to make every endeavour to improve her present position—with which she is notoriously dissatisfied—by speculating on the political Bourse of Europe. If she can get Russian securities, something might certainly be done with them; or a concession from Prussia of the long-coveted coal-fields on the left bank of the Rhine—if nothing else in that direction could be obtained—would be of use. If the worst came to the worst, and if it should be impossible to get anything worth having from any other quarter, even Austrian bonds might be turned to account. This is, no doubt, the Emperor's last card, or, at least, his last great card. If Russia will do nothing with him in the East, if Prussia will cede nothing to him on the Rhine, Austria may still be induced to form an alliance with him for the purpose of observing and restraining Prussia in her advances towards Southern Germany. At the very end of the Paris Exhibition, the duration of which was to be the sign of the duration of peace in Europe, the Emperor Francis Joseph is the guest of the Emperor Napoleon; and though it is not to be supposed that the two Monarchs have any intention of declaring war against any third Monarch, the meeting of the two Emperors who have such important interests in common just now cannot be passed over as a fact without importance, or as of only everyday interest.

No one can suppose that the Emperor of the French went to Salzburg, or the Emperor of Austria to Paris, merely for the sake of exchanging civilities; and it is very suggestive that the Emperor of the French, who, at the time of the German war, declared that he "could not ally himself with a corpse," is now obliged, in lieu of a more vivacious and powerful coadjutor, to accept the corpse. The official papers of Vienna declare that nothing very serious, and, above all, no aggressive movement, is contemplated by Austria; and this we can readily believe. Only the two great anti-Prussian States in Europe would like it to be understood that they are prepared to work together, and that Prussia had better mind what she is about if she has any serious thought of pursuing her annexation projects—which, in spite of more or less open menaces, she is not very likely to abandon.

Whatever practical effect the return visit of the Emperor Francis Joseph to the Emperor Napoleon may have, the presence of the Austrian Emperor as the guest of his old enemy is highly suggestive—the more so if it be regarded as in any way connected with the untimely fate of the Emperor Maximilian. It has been said that, in making his journey of a few weeks back to Salzburg, Napoleon meant only to pay a visit of condolence to Maximilian's brother; and, in that case, the visit of Francis Joseph to Paris must be looked upon as a visit in acknowledgment of condolence. Who, however, was Maximilian? He was Sovereign of Mexico; but, until within half a dozen years of his attainment of the Mexican crown, he was Governor of Lombardy. Now, if he governed Lombardy harshly, or feebly, or unjustly, how was it that the Emperor of the French came to look upon him as one eminently fitted to make the happiness of the people of Mexico? On the other hand, if he governed Lombardy with true regard and sympathy for the interests of the inhabitants, why did the Emperor of the French formally denounce his rule as incompatible with the welfare of the province placed beneath his sway? Maximilian certainly behaved much better to his Italian than he did to his Mexican subjects. Yet he was turned out of Italy by the very man who, for a time at least, supported him in Mexico.

The conduct of the French Emperor will be found equally inconsistent if it be considered in reference to his actions eight years ago in Lombardy, and at the present time in connection with Rome. The Lombards, of themselves, or assisted only by the army of the King of Sardinia, would never have beaten the Austrian troops out of Lombardy. The French helped them as the Garibaldians have helped, or have sought to help, the Romans to get rid of the Papal tyranny in Rome; and whether or not the Romans and the Italians in general belong identically to the same "nationality," it is quite certain that they are fellow-countrymen in a broad and truly national sense. The Italians wish to aid the Romans from national sympathy, and not merely from an ambition to possess Rome as a capital. The French never helped the Italians except from political motives; and it is the policy of France now to sacrifice the Italians to the Pope, as it was its policy in 1859 to sacrifice the Austrians to King Victor Emmanuel. Nor will this policy, as it is now being carried out, be at all unpopular with the French. The French Government will have shown that, if it considers it prudent to make no attempt to arrest the aggrandisement of Prussia, it at least will not allow its treaty arrangements to be upset by a few bands of Garibaldians, even though the Garibaldians may fancy that they are to be supported by the whole army of Italy.

"FEELING THE PATIENT'S PULSE."

THE picture from which our Engraving is taken makes its own appeal to our interpretation of the story that is sought to be conveyed, and depends on this sort of interest for its popularity no less than on the skill with which the subject is handled. Nothing could be more lifelike than those two girls' figures, and the affectation of professional solemnity in the face of the one, or the half-laughing protest in the very expression and attitude of the other. What secret is it that has left its influence on that coquettish creature ever since the return from last night's party, and what painful doubt is concealed beneath the listlessness that has defied every effort to draw out her sisterly confidences? The fair physician who counts the beating of that irregular pulse, and stands, watch in hand, to mark the flutter of the heart as the patient half fears that her thoughts are being guessed, from the tell-tale flush that steals over her cheek, may have a shrewd intention in playing this little farce; and her prescriptions, whether they be observed or not, may at least serve to indicate her own knowledge of the symptoms. She has, at all events, pronounced it to be "disturbance of the heart," and is pondering what advice will be best in order to prevent downright disease. Probably she will come to the conclusion that another opinion will be necessary, and will propose a consultation. It may be that another eminent physician, whose skill will be more potent, is at this moment on his way to pay a ceremonial visit, and that he will be left to study the case of the patient, who will adopt the sympathetic treatment with undoubted success. In such cases homeopathic science is most surely to be relied on. An exhibition of combined metals, consisting of a certain quantity of gold, amalgamated with a slight mixture of alloy, made up in an annular or ring shape, and applied externally to the bent finger, has often been found successful, even in very severe affections of this nature.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.—The provinces of British North America contain collectively an area of 632,360 square miles, and in 1861 a total population of 3,328,872 persons. By the official statistical abstract lately published it is found that in 1865 the gross amount of public revenue was £3,250,019, nearly £2,500,000 of which belonged to Canada. The gross expenditure had, between 1859 and 1865 inclusive, increased by a million, the maximum year during this interval, of revenue as well as of expenditure, being 1864. Between 1859 and 1865 the public debt of Canada rose from £4,000,000 to more than £12,500,000, the maximum occurring, however, in 1863. The total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared at Newfoundland between 1859 and 1865 varied considerably, being represented by 409,000 tons in 1859 and 270,000 tons only in 1865. The value of imports to British North America in 1865 was £16,225,767, £9,000,000 of which belonged to Canada, £2,800,000 to Nova Scotia, £1,400,000 to New Brunswick, and £1,000,000 to Newfoundland, exclusive, as to the three latter, of bullion and specie. The total exports during the above interval rose progressively, and in 1865 were valued at more than £13,000,000 sterling. The principal articles exported from Canada are white pine, planks, and boards, flour, wool, horses, barley, and rye, oats, peas, and wheat. The total value of dry codfish exported from Newfoundland in 1865 was £706,352, of unrefined cod-oil £136,355, and of seal-oil £156,578.

THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH AND THE ROMAN QUESTION.—The Continental papers are reproducing the following letter addressed many years ago to Edgar Ney:—"Elysée National, Ang. 16, 1849. My dear Ney,—The French Republic has not sent an army to Rome to stifle Italian liberty, but, on the contrary, to regulate it in preserving it against its own excesses, and to give it a solid basis by replacing upon the Pontifical throne the prince who was the first to put himself boldly at the head of useful reforms. I learn with pain that the benevolent intentions of the Holy Father, as well as our own action, remain sterile in presence of hostile passions and influences. People make out that the return of the Pope will bring about proscription and tyranny. Tell General Rostolan from me not to allow any act to be committed under the shadow of the tricolour calculated to affect the character of our intervention. I sum up as follows the re-establishment of the temporal power of the Pope:—General amnesty, the administration rendered secular, Code Napoleon, and liberal government. I have felt personally wounded on reading the proclamation of the three Cardinals to see that no mention was made of the name of France nor the sufferings of her soldiers. Every insult addressed to our flag or our uniform goes straight to my heart; and I beg you will cause it to be understood that if France does not sell her services she expects some acknowledgment of her sacrifices and her abnegation. When our armies made the round of Europe the trace of their passage was everywhere marked by the destruction of the abuses of feudalism and by the germs of liberty. It shall not be said in 1849 that a French army has acted in another sense to bring about other results. Tell the General to thank the army in my name for its noble conduct. I have learned with pain that even physically it has not been treated as it ought to have been. Nothing should be neglected for the comfort of our troops. Receive, my dear Ney, the assurance of my sincere friendship.—LOUIS NAPOLEON BONAPARTE."

CIALDINI'S VIEW OF THE ITALIAN SITUATION.—It is stated in *La Presse* that General Cialdini sent for M. de Villastreux, the French Chargé d'Affaires, on Friday week, at nine p.m., and stated that he was no longer Minister. Recognising his own want of power to overrule the state of things, he had petitioned the King to relieve him from the office which his Majesty had intrusted to him, and he now only waited the appointment of his successor. The General said that the return of Garibaldi to the Continent had seriously aggravated the difficulties of the situation, by giving to the party of action a head and a director, and by inflaming the minds of all. The Italian Government admitted that it could not struggle against the movement; it was compelled to follow the revolution, even should it be drawn on to Rome. In reply to the observation of M. de Villastreux that the first step upon the Papal territory would lead to the fatal consequence of a declaration of war by France, General Cialdini replied that the Government foresaw and accepted the consequences of its determination. War with France seemed to him to be the better course. To attempt the struggle against Mazzini and Garibaldi was to attempt impossibilities; the Government would be swallowed up by the revolution. Victor Emmanuel would risk his popularity, his crown, and probably life itself, without any chance of success. The General also said that France was a generous enemy, and would make war only according to the laws of civilisation, while it was certain that she would not abuse her advantages. They might be conquered by her without shame, and almost without peril; and the revolutionary party could display no vigour nor anger against Victor Emmanuel if he were to yield in the unequal strife into which they had forced the Italian monarchy. The General concluded by repeating the communication with which he had been intrusted—that the Italian Government found that it was absolutely impossible to execute the September Convention, and to yield to the desires expressed by the Cabinet of the Tuilleries regarding it. This important conversation was transmitted to Paris the same night by telegraph, and the Emperor at once decided to give the orders for the sailing of the expedition. It is said that General Cialdini, on resigning his post, advised the King to form a Ministry from the ranks of the Left, including the names of MM. Crispi and Mordini, the avowed organisers of the invasion of the Roman States.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The French Chambers have been summoned to meet on Nov. 18. On Monday a grand banquet was given at the Hôtel de Ville in honour of the Emperor of Austria, at which the Emperor Napoleon and the Empress were present. The Emperor Napoleon proposed a toast to the Emperor and Empress of Austria as the expression of the profound sympathy towards the person and family of the Emperor and Austria. The Emperor of Austria, in returning thanks, expressed his desire that all discord which had previously separated two countries, called to march forward together in the paths of progress and civilisation, should be buried in oblivion. His Majesty concluded by proposing a toast to the Emperor and Empress of the French, the Prince Imperial, France, and the city of Paris.

The *Moniteur* of Wednesday, in reference to affairs in Italy, says:—"Now that the French flag waves upon the walls of Civita Vecchia and that the French troops are in the presence of the revolutionary bands who have invaded the Pontifical States, it would be almost superfluous to remark that all correspondence with the insurgent bands or their leaders, all encouragement, all assistance given them either by subscriptions or by any other means, would constitute a fact equally opposed to the provisions of the French penal laws as to the country's sentiments of loyalty and devotedness. The Government relies upon the patriotism of all the organs of the press, whatever opinions they may defend, and hopes that it will not be compelled to have recourse to the severity of the laws."

Many of the French Bishops have expressed to the Emperor their recognition of the protection afforded by him to the Holy See.

General La Marmora has arrived in Paris on a confidential mission. According to the *Patrie* his object is to prevail upon the French Government to acquiesce in the proposal that the troops of Italy should be associated with the French expeditionary force.

The banquet given to the Imperial Commission of the Paris Exhibition by the foreign Commissioners came off on Monday evening. Earl Granville, who presided, proposed a toast to the Emperor Napoleon and the Imperial family. M. Rouher thanked Earl Granville for the toast, and drank to the Sovereigns and heads of the foreign Governments. He drew a comparison between the industries of the different countries, and continued as follows:—

The superior mission of those who govern is the maintenance of peace among all nations. These words seem to receive from current events a contradiction and a denial. Some are under the apprehension that a neighbouring nation will assume the heavy responsibility of a war with France. This disquietude is, I believe, without foundation. The sole aim of the recent Imperial resolutions was to stop the disorderly, dangerous, and revolutionary march of individuals without authority, who dare to violate the faith pledged by the regular Governments of their country. The Italian nation and its Sovereign are aware that blind anarchists menace Florence as much as Rome, and the existence of monarchical Italy as well as that of the Pontifical States. I have confidence in the wisdom of that people to whom we have afforded so many proofs of sympathy.

THE ROMAN QUESTION.

Another change has come over the state of affairs in the Roman States.

Garibaldi having once more escaped, and his journey to the Roman frontier being unimpeded by the Italian authorities, the natural result has been the entire overturn of the momentary settlement of the Roman question. Fighting has recommenced in the Papal States, with varied success. An attack of a thousand Garibaldians on Viterbo was repulsed by the Pontifical troops with much loss to the assailants; but in an engagement near Monte Rotondo, between a band of 4000 volunteers led by Garibaldi and the Papal troops, the latter were defeated with much loss. Some 300 of the Antibes Legion were taken prisoners. These Garibaldi seems to have sent immediately to the rear, but when they reached the Italian frontier they were released by the Italian troops. The latest intelligence places Garibaldi's outposts within three miles and a half of Rome.

The *Diritto* even says that Garibaldi had made himself master of the Villa Pionbino, almost at the very gates of Rome, and that the Pontifical army was encamped under the walls.

Of course, this change in the aspect of affairs in Italy was immediately followed by orders for the French fleet and troops to proceed to Civita Vecchia. There, though delayed by a gale, the transports duly arrived on Monday, and the troops were disembarked. Further troops are being sent to Toulon. The naval conscription is re-established, and everything indicates that France is preparing for much more than the driving of the Garibaldians out of the Papal territory. The *Moniteur* does its best to diminish the importance of this measure, and to allay the fears of war between France and Italy. It declares that on the demand of King Victor Emmanuel the departure of the troops had been suspended till the last moment, until, in fact, it was found that no Cabinet had been formed at Florence, and that the revolutionary bands continued to invade the Pontifical States, and menaced Rome itself. The French Government could not postpone any longer the occupation it had decided upon, and the Emperor has made known his resolution to the Italian Government. It adds, however, that this measure has no aggressive character towards Italy; and both countries have an equal interest in the maintenance of order and legality. The revolutionary invasion attempted against Rome is the violation of public law and of treaties. The Italian nation and its Sovereign cannot have any other sentiments than those which actuate France and her Government, and it is still hoped that the friendly relations which unite them will not be troubled. The "friendly relations" depend, of course, on the conduct of the Italian Government in the present crisis, and the phrase means that, if it makes common cause with the Garibaldians, their relations will not be so friendly.

The *Florence Official Gazette* of Wednesday evening says:—"The French *Moniteur* having announced that the French flag waves upon the walls of Civita Vecchia, the Government of the King, in conformity with the declarations made by it previously to friendly Powers, in view of such an eventuality, has given the order to the Royal troops to cross the frontier and occupy some points in the Pontifical territory." The *Gazzetta di Firenze* of the same date says:—"This morning, at eleven, the King ordered the Italian forces to cross the Papal frontiers. The troops are now advancing upon Civita Castellana, Orte, Acquapendente, and Frosinone."

Great excitement prevails in Florence and throughout Italy generally.

A circular note, dated the 25th ult., has been addressed by the Marquis de Moustier to the French diplomatic agents abroad, in which he says:—

We do not wish at this moment to occupy ourselves with enumerating the successive incidents which have given rise to and pushed to extreme consequences a crisis as threatening to the security of the Holy See as it is dangerous to the true interests of Italy. It suffices for us to regard them from the point of view of our right and our honour, and to confirm the duty for us resulting therefrom.

The September Convention has been induced and freely signed by the Italian Government. It obliged that Government to protect efficaciously the frontier of the Pontifical States against all aggression from without. No one can now doubt that this obligation has not been fulfilled, and that we have a right to replace matters in the position they occupied prior to the loyal and complete execution of our own engagements by the evacuation of Rome. Our honour certainly imposes upon us the duty of not failing to recognise the hopes founded by the Catholic world upon the value of a treaty bearing our signature.

Let us hasten to say, however, that we do not wish to renew in the old form an occupation of whose gravity no one is better aware than we are. We are not animated by any hostile idea towards Italy, and we faithfully retain the remembrance of all ties which unite us with her. We are convinced that the spirit of order and legality—the only possible basis for her prosperity and her greatness—will not delay in loudly asserting itself. As soon as the Pontifical territory shall be liberated and security re-established, we shall have accomplished our task, and we shall withdraw.

But henceforth we must call the attention of Powers as much interested as we ourselves are in causing the principles of order and stability to prevail in Europe to the reciprocal situation of Italy and the Holy See.

We do not doubt that they will consider, with a sincere desire to settle them, the questions to which so large a number of their subjects attach moral and religious interests of the most elevated character.

Such, Sir, are the considerations you will take care to set forth, and which I feel confident the Government to which you are accredited will appreciate.

The following proclamation of King Victor Emmanuel to the Italian people was issued in Florence on Sunday:—

Italians!—Bands of volunteers, excited and seduced by a party without my authorisation or that of my Government, have violated the frontier of the State. The respect equally due by all citizens to the laws and international stipulations sanctioned by Parliament and by me, under these serious circumstances, prescribes an inexorable debt of honour.

Europe knows that the flag raised in territories adjacent to ours, and upon which is inscribed destruction to the supreme spiritual authority of the head of the Catholic religion, is not mine. This attempt places our common country in the most serious danger. It imposes upon me the imperative duty of saving at the same time our honour and the country, and of not confounding two causes absolutely distinct, two different objects.

Italy must be secured against the dangers she may run. Europe must be convinced that, faithful to her engagements, Italy does not desire to be, and cannot be, the disturber of public order.

A war with our ally would be a fratricidal war between two armies who have fought for the same cause. As holder of the right of peace or war, I cannot tolerate its usurpation. I feel confident, therefore, that the voice of reason will be listened to, and that the Italian citizens who have violated that right will promptly withdraw behind the line of our troops.

The dangers which disorders and rash schemes may create amongst us must be appeased by maintaining the firm authority of the Government and the inviolability of the laws. The honour of the country is in my hands, and the confidence the nation has shown in me during the saddest periods cannot fail me. When calm shall be restored to men's minds, and public order shall be fully re-established, according to the vote of Parliament, my Government, in agreement with that of France, will endeavour, with all loyalty, to make a practicable arrangement calculated to put an end to the serious and important Roman question.

I have had, and always shall have, confidence in your wisdom, as you have had in the affection of your King for this great country, which, thanks to our common sacrifices, we have at last restored to the number of nations and which we must hand down entire and honoured to our children.

Meanwhile, General Cialdini having failed to form an Administration, General Menabrea has succeeded, or nearly so, in forming a Cabinet. The new Minister, it would seem, has determined to maintain the September Convention, and to hold no terms with the revolution. The new Ministry is formed as follows:—General Menabrea takes the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, with the presidency of the Council; Signor Guaiterio, Interior; Signor Cambray Digny, Finance; Signor Cantelli, Public Works; General Bertole Viale, War; Signor Mari, Justice. Until the complete formation of the Cabinet, General Menabrea will also assume the *ad interim* direction of the Ministry of the Marine, Signor Cambray Digny of Agriculture, and Signor Cantelli of Public Instruction.

The Italian Parliament will be convoked for the latter end of next month.

Disturbances have occurred in Rome, but of a trifling character. Few persons were killed. There were no barricades. One hundred and three prisoners were made. A court-martial will be held on the chiefs. Depôts of arms have been discovered. The gates have been fortified by the Zouaves. The official *Giornale di Roma*, speaking of the insurrectionary movement in the city, says:—"It commenced by the bursting of a bomb thrown into the Piazza Colonna. A barrel of gunpowder subsequently exploded at the Serristori Barracks, killing several Zouaves. Other insurgents attempted to take prisoners the sentinels on guard at Campidoglio, but were repulsed. Similar attempts were made in several parts of the city, and about one hundred arrests were made."

The *Times* publishes the following particulars about Rome by a Roman well acquainted with his native place, which the *Times* says may be depended on for strict accuracy and veracity:—

The other day, the 23rd, I was in Rome for a few hours. The appearance of the city was gloomy. Many shops were closed; the streets deserted, only trodden by patrols of soldiers and gendarmes; six of the town gates were shut and barricaded with barrels full of earth. There were troops coming back to the city; half a battery recalled from Velletri was taking up its position at Macao (Castrum Pratorium), and the heights round the city were beset by troops. The posts on the Quirinal and the Vatican were reinforced; all the Leonine city was occupied by foreign troops—i.e., the Castle of St. Angelo and the Serristori Barracks by Zouave battalions, and the barracks at the Angelica Gate by foreign chasseurs.

As I was on the spot the fire brigade were busy unburying the bodies of about twelve Zouaves, who had been killed by the bursting of a mine at the Serristori Barracks. The explosion had occurred on the evening of the 22nd, when there had been firing in the city between the insurgent citizens and the patrolling troops. Encounters had taken place near the Capitol, between the Temple of Vesta, the Portico of Octavia, and the Tarpeian Rock. I was told that the bursting of the mine was to be the signal for a general rising if the bands had come near the city; but these, on the contrary, were executing a movement of concentration, awaiting Garibaldi's arrival for a united onset. Garibaldi did, in fact, arrive, and is now at the head of all the bands at Monte Rotondo.

The Antilles Legion is being concentrated at Civita Vecchia, where it receives reinforcements from Marseilles. Every steamer conveys from a hundred to 150 recruits. A convoy of ammunition left Rome for Civita Vecchia when I was in Rome; it was intended for the use of the legion quartered at that seaport. On the morning of the 22nd the political prisoners who were shut up in the Castle of St. Angelo were conveyed to Civita Vecchia. All those with whom I spoke expressed their wishes and hopes that the Italian army should go and free them from their misery.

Cardinal Antonelli is now isolated, as no one approves his policy. He keeps the Pope in a perfect state of ignorance, and prepares a repetition of the incidents of 1848-9 by inducing the Pope to escape from Rome to Civita Vecchia, which is to be the Gaeta of 1867. In that town they have been getting ready the delegate's apartments for the possible reception of his Holiness.

The Pope has addressed an encyclical letter to the Catholic Bishops throughout the world upon the present state of the patrimony of the Church, which, he states, is assailed by revolutionists. His Holiness also refers to the sad position of the Church in Poland, and asks the Bishops to order public prayers to be offered up in their dioceses for the Church and the Holy See.

SPAIN.

An address to the Pope has been signed by Senor Nocedel and other deputies, requesting his Holiness to take up his residence in Spain, if compelled to leave Rome.

GERMANY.

Last Saturday the King of Prussia closed the sittings of the North German Parliament. He made a speech on the occasion, in which he congratulated the Parliament on the great amount of good work it had done in a short time. Referring to the Zollverein Treaty, he expressed regret that the southern States did not see their way to accept the proposals of North Germany. It seems highly probable that Bavaria will have to yield on this point.

AUSTRIA.

A Royal decree has been issued, addressed to the representatives of the post of Ban of Croatia, sanctioning provisionally the laws submitted for the Royal approval by the last Representative Assembly, with the exception of a few of its decisions which were in direct contravention with the justly-acquired historical rights and claims of Hungary. The decree also orders new elections to be held without delay for the Croatian Diet, which is to be shortly convoked to deliberate upon the representation of Croatia in the Hungarian Diet and in the delegations, as also the completion of the negotiations for an arrangement with Hungary.

M. Kosuth's second son has been elected member of the Lower House of the Diet for this district by a large majority.

In Wednesday's sitting of the Upper House of the Reichsrath the bill upon the powers of the Government and the Executive was passed with some immaterial amendments and several supplementary clauses, as drawn up by the Lower House. Before the adoption of the bill Count Taaffe, on behalf of the Government, made a speech in its support. He declared that the Government looked upon this bill, which had been originated by the initiative of the Lower House and modified, but not fundamentally altered, by the committee of the Upper House, as a completion of the institutions and constitution of the State. The Government, he added, had openly and honourably entered upon a constitutional path, and they considered it their duty to go forward in it in the same honourable manner.

TURKEY AND SERVIA.

Advices received here from Belgrade announce that the Servian Government has addressed another note to the Porte respecting the Servians who were killed by some Turkish policemen on board the steamer Germania. The note demands an apology to the Servian flag and the settlement of a pension upon the families of the deceased.

THE UNITED STATES.

From the United States we learn that General Grant has been adopted as a candidate for the presidency by a mass meeting of the Republican party at Philadelphia and elsewhere. This step is probably consequent upon the recent reverses of the party in Pennsylvania. There is no name in the country so likely to awaken popular enthusiasm as that of General Grant.

It is reported that Mr. Thaddeus Stevens has announced that he will urge Congress to pass an impeachment law defining impeachable offences, and providing that no officer will be permitted to exercise the functions of office during trial under impeachment; and that he will also present a bill prohibiting any State preventing citizens from voting on account of colour for national officers.

The Secretary of the Treasury has announced his intention of making a demand upon the persons from whom the recent spurious 7-30 United States bonds were received.

Yellow fever was rapidly abating at New Orleans, Mobile, and Galveston.

According to intelligence from Mexico, General Santa Anna has been sentenced to eight years' banishment.

THE RIVER PLATE.

The latest accounts from the Brazils represent the allies as pushing on the war against the Paraguayans, and that they had succeeded in capturing the fortress of Pilar. The proposals of Lopez had been rejected by the allies.

THE ABYSSINIAN CAPTIVES.

The following letter from Mr. Rassam has been forwarded to the newspapers for publication:—

Magdala, Sept. 7.

My dear —,—Your kind and welcome note of March 2 was nearly five months on its way here. Where the delay took place I cannot make out. Our affairs are sadly neglected at Massowah; and it appears that our agent there has been attending to any other matter save the wretched Abyssinian captives. Ever since we were sent as prisoners to this place, in July, 1866, I have been sending regularly a monthly post, and sometimes I dispatched extra couriers when I had anything important to communicate. You will all be sorry to learn that myself and party are now starving, owing to the mismanagement of those who have to do with our affairs at Massowah. I have repeatedly written for money, but my messengers are sent back with the same story, that Colonel Merewether had given orders that no money was to be sent to me except *via* Materna. The road between that place and Magdala has been quite blocked up, partly by the rains and partly by the rebels, and there is no more chance of our obtaining money thence than from Timbuctoo. I have warned them over and over again not to trust to that route, but as we have always been successful through the Tigree and Lasta road, I begged that money should be sent to us constantly by that way; but my advice was not listened to, hence this difficulty. Only God knows what will happen to us in case we do not get any succour from the coast for five or six weeks longer.

The rebellion has now become general all over Abyssinia, the few districts between the Royal camp at Dabra Tabor and this place have thrown off their allegiance to King Theodore, and consequently they have closed the roads against all travellers, and have succeeded so far as to prevent public communication from taking place between Dabra Tabor and Magdala. For the last four months the Emperor has only communicated three times with this place, and even then he was obliged to employ a servant of one of the native prisoners in order that he might not be recognised. Our Royal friend is now becoming quite desperate, and consequently he spares neither male nor female if any of the rebels happen to fall into his hands; the rebels, on the other hand, imitate the practice of their late master by butchering any person found outside the hedge which is now built outside the Royal camp. I have only been able to communicate with Mr. Flad, at Dabra Tabor, since his return. Every time I tried to send a messenger they were plundered, but the letters they have always managed to save. The carnage which takes place daily in the Royal camp from famine, pestilence, and the sword is quite terrifying. 2500 men who had intended to run away were butchered like sheep, and 295 chiefs were starved to death, after they had their arms and feet cut off, for the same reason. For two whole days, from morning till evening, nothing was heard but reports of musketry, and at each discharge either the wife, mother, or child of a deserter was killed. Ladies of noble families were tortured to death, and the poor creatures breathed their last under most frightful agony. Men are now held responsible for the desertion of their brothers-in-law, sons-in-law, or fathers-in-law, as they are expected to know the movements of their marriage relations. Between forty and fifty persons die daily of different diseases.

Some one has told the Emperor that if he persisted in keeping me and my fellow-prisoners in this country England would be compelled to fight him. "Let them come," said he, "and call me a woman if I do not beat them." You will all be glad to know that his Majesty still treats me with consideration and mock friendship, and he never fails to send me polite messages, and orders the authorities of this place to be kind to me, and to come and see me often. Mr. Flad tells me that in the beginning of last month the Emperor ordered some swords to be presented to deserving officers who showed good service in the field. A sword which was presented to me by his Majesty before my incarceration was brought out with the rest intended for presentation, and on seeing it he said to the officer in charge of the arms, "Take care of that sword, it is the property of Mr. Rassam, whom I have chained off because I have listened to instigators. I shall bring him, together with them (my European fellow-prisoners), and release him and give him his property." He may keep my sword for the sake of old friendship; but there is no more chance of his letting us out without coercion from without than to fly up to the moon. He sent me a letter the other day wherein he called me a friend and a brother, and assured me the only thing he wished in the world was the friendship of my Queen and that of myself. The chiefs of the mountain are still as kind to me as ever. Before the rains began they enlarged my courtyard, which enabled me to make a nice garden around my house, which has been built anew by the chiefs of this fortress. It is considered the prettiest house there, and the most comfortable. In front of the door I have erected a nice arbour, covered over with tomato-plants. We have had a great deal of sickness on this mountain for the last three months, from which nearly one third of the native prisoners have been carried off. I thank God not only that none of our people have been infected by the epidemic, but it has not even touched our quarter.

Our rainy season will be over in ten days, when we fear, the Emperor will begin to make a move towards this place. If he continues to behave civilly towards me, we might have a little quiet; but if he begins to bully me, woe betide us! However, I have such a great faith in the mercies of our Heavenly Father that I feel sanguine that everything will yet end well and to the honour of England.

I hope that you are all enjoying perfect health; and, with kind love to your husband and children, I remain, as ever, your affectionate friend,

H. RASSAM.

SLEEPING IN CHURCH.—At a soirée held the other night at Niddrie School, on the occasion of its being reopened after extensive alterations and improvements, the Rev. Dr. Guthrie delivered an address, in the course of which he defined as follows the close relationship between sleeping in church and bad ventilation. He said:—"I do not intend, because I am not very able, to address you at any length, especially in such a close and heated atmosphere as this, because we are very closely packed this evening, and whether there is sufficient ventilation in this place for such a large audience I have some doubts. I am a great admirer of ventilation and fresh air, and I think it should be had, if possible, on all occasions. I remember that in my native city of Brechin, Lady Carnegie, who set up a school in the tenements, asked one of the little girls attending it what was the effect of opening a window. (Here one of the windows of the room was suddenly drawn down amid laughter and applause). Her Ladyship supposed the little girl would answer that it let in the fresh air, but it was not so. Her answer was this—and we may have a proof of it immediately—it lets in the cold." But, though that may be quite true, I am a very great advocate of fresh air being admitted into schools and houses. I sleep with my bedroom windows open every night. Some people might think that that would kill them, but it is well you should know that foul air is as bad for the health as foul meat—for air is just food for the lungs; and one reason why you see so many people going to sleep in church is, not because they have a bad preacher or a bad sermon, but because they have bad air. I remember I was once present in a congregation in the town of Thurso, which contained as many as 1200 people, and, perhaps, you will hardly believe me when I tell you that on that occasion I saw what I never saw before, and what, I am sure, you never saw, and what I hope I shall never see again—I saw 600 people asleep! 600 people asleep! I happened at the time to be living with Sir George Sinclair, a very excellent gentleman, who resides in the immediate neighbourhood of that town. I told him what I had seen in the church. "Oh," said he, "that is nothing to what I have seen myself. I have seen in almost every pew the whole people asleep, with only here and there an exception." Now, what was the cause of that? It was no fault on the part of the preacher; for the minister, Mr. Taylor is an excellent preacher, and excellent people the congregation generally are; but I told them, in addressing a meeting some days after, every man might as well have gone into an apothecary's shop before he went to church and taken a dose of laudanum to set him to sleep. I say they might as well have done that, as breathe the kind of air with which the church was filled. Now, I wish you to take care that you get plenty of fresh air, which is so essential to good health."

THE FARNHAM WORKHOUSE INQUIRY.

THE course adopted by the Poor-Law Board respecting the astounding revelations which have taken place concerning the Farnham Union Workhouse, its infirmary, and management, will cause no little astonishment. Contrary to public expectation, there is to be no public inquiry, because the Poor-Law Board "sees no necessity for such a course." In fact, the secret system adopted at Cheltenham is to be pursued here, if possible. The incriminated inspector "is to meet the guardians, go over the house with them, and report to the Poor-Law Board" whether it is true that he is guilty of the serious errors of commission and omission with which he is charged. Such is the course laid down by the Poor-Law Board at present, and not even the day named for this meeting of the alleged negligent Poor-Law Board's official and the guardians can be ascertained at Whitehall, so strictly is information withheld at the official head-quarters respecting matters of public importance; but, notwithstanding this reticence, the day and the hour are well known to those who are watching the affair in the public interest.

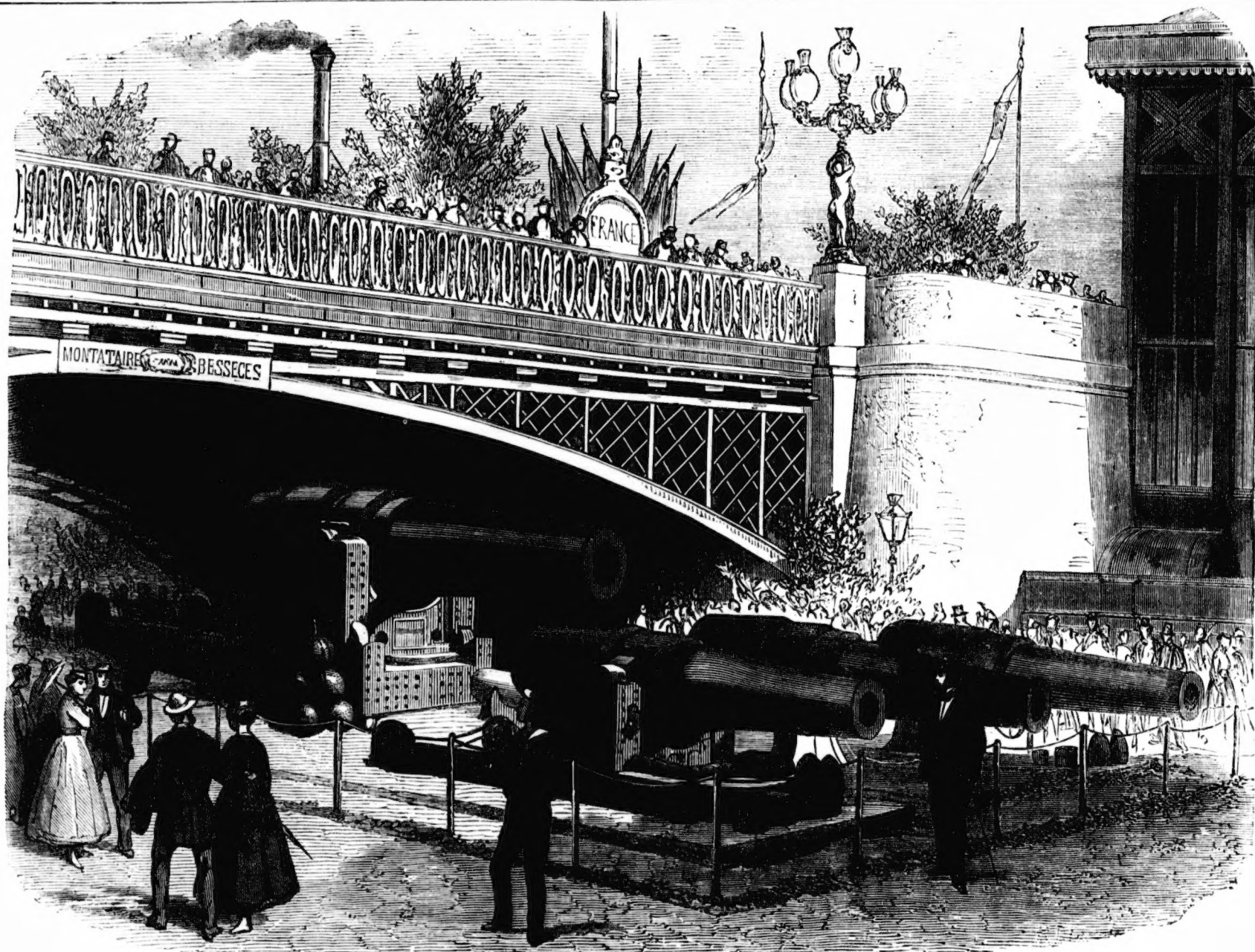
The Poor-Law Board considers, so it is laid down by one of the chief officials, the medical adviser, that justice will be met by an inspection of the workhouse. "There is no need," this official added, "to take any evidence." The reason for this is, that where sworn evidence is taken the board-room of the workhouse becomes a court of justice, and is open to the public and the press. The Poor-Law Board under Mr. Villiers always, when any charge was made against workhouse management, ordered a prompt, full, and open inquiry; and it is only since the advent to power of the present Administration that the system of "hushing things up" has been in vogue. To such an extent has this system been carried out that the poor-law medical officers who have spoken out respecting the abuses in their workhouses are under official disfavour, and Mr. Farnall, the only inspector who had the courage to disregard the new order of things, has been officially exiled from London. Workhouse officials, guardians, and paupers knew that any complaint sent to Mr. Farnall brought that gentleman at once to the spot, and an investigation immediately followed. It was in this promptness and publicity—for the press is allowed to be present at nearly all guardians' meetings—that the pauper was to some extent, at least, shielded from the dangers to which the weak are exposed when in the hands of officials of the "Bumble" type. It must be remembered that the pauper has not the safeguards which the prisoner in every gaol in the country has. A Coroner's inquisition is held upon every person who dies in gaol; but unless the medical officer of the workhouse, who is, in all likelihood, the last man to create what is officially called a disturbance by refusing his certificate, does actually refuse to certify, or unless a rumour should pass out of the workhouse gates of some wrongdoing—and the rumour then must be so loud as to reach an active Coroner's ear—no inquiry is held. The pauper's body is handed over to the contracting undertaker and buried without a question as "to the means whereby he came by his death." The heartrending revelations which were made public last year, and which led to the change in the law affecting the London workhouses were chiefly made at inquests on persons who had died "natural deaths," but associated with horrible neglect such as that to which Richard Gibson was exposed in the workhouse of Bloomsbury, and such "superintendence" as the infant laid out alive had in St. Pancras. A medical officer, knowing the present official love of silence, would in all human probability certify in such cases; and the wrongs go on uncorrected, as the wrongs of pauper nurses, such as the official "Pots and Pans," when she left off selling in the street in "bad times" and took to nursing at Paddington, inflicted upon the sick poor would have been uncorrected to this day had not accidental publicity pointed the wrong and forced an amendment. But the Poor-Law Board objects to this publicity as "sensational writing."

There is another point in this Farnham inquiry which raises an important question, and that is as to whom the right belongs of admission to the workhouses. The present Government acknowledged, on the passing of the Metropolitan Poor Law Amendment Act, the great public services of the gentlemen who, under Mr. Ernest Hart, instituted the *Lancet* commission of inquiry into the management of the London workhouse infirmaries. The question is now raised—and raised, too, by a very high official of the Poor-Law Board—as to whether the masters of workhouses can legally admit anyone not a pauper, guardian, or poor-law inspector to the workhouse. Masters of workhouses read the law that they have the responsibility of refusing or admitting any person, and hitherto they have not refused, generally speaking, admittance to the press. But it is now attempted to put a pressure upon the masters to refer all inquiring and curious medical commissioners to the "next board day of the guardians;" and, in fact, to rule that Mr. Douglas, the master of the Marylebone Workhouse, in admitting the persons who fell through the ice in the Regent's-park last winter—without saying a word as to his promptness and humanity in making all the arrangements for the sufferers in such a manner as won him the thanks of the president and of the whole kingdom—acted illegally in admitting persons without first ascertaining that they were paupers, and had rendered himself liable to dismissal. This hint to workhouse masters is thrown out to scare the officials from opening the workhouse gates to wandering, unofficial commissioners who can spy out workhouse faults.—*Times*.

[In reference to the remark made above that the medical adviser of the Poor-Law Board had said that there was "no need to take any evidence," that official writes to say that this is a mistake, and that he "does not know, and never stated, what would be the nature of the inquiry.]

THE LATE GALES.—During the recent gales the life-boats of the National Life-boat Institution have rendered the following important services:—The Girvan life-boat, The Earl of Carrick, rescued the crew of three men from the smack Margaret Davies, which had struck on a reef and become a total wreck. The crew were nearly exhausted, as they had been clinging to the wreck for two hours, with the sea washing completely over them. A pilot-boat had previously vainly endeavoured to get off to them. The solicitors and proctors' life-boat at Winchelsea, Sussex, named the Storm Sprite, rendered valuable assistance to the stranded ship Michel Loos, of Antwerp, and the vessel and her crew of twenty-four men were ultimately enabled to pursue their voyage. The Tenby life-boat the Florence, with the assistance of another boat, was the means of bringing safely into harbour the disabled smack Queen Victoria, of Brixham, and her crew of two men. The Birmingham No. 2 life-boat, stationed at Caister, Norfolk, put off to the Newarp Light-ship, which had been run into by a large steamer and cut down to the water's edge. Four of the life-boat men were put on board the vessel to assist the crew at the pumps, and the life-boat then went to Yarmouth with a message to the Trinity House agent for additional assistance. The Exmouth (Victoria) and Holyhead (Princess of Wales) life-boats had also gone out with the view of rendering assistance to the crews of distressed vessels, but, happily, their services were not required.

DEATH OF LORD WROTTESELEY.—The obituary of this week contains the name of Lord Wrottesley, a nobleman who has for many years past taken a deep interest in the scientific questions of the day. The noble Lord was born on Aug. 6, 1798, and was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, where he took his B.A. degree in 1819, when he took a first class in mathematics. He took his M.A. degree in 1823, and in the same year was called to the Bar by the Hon. Society of Lincoln's Inn. He was married, in 1821, to the third daughter of Mr. Thomas Gifford, of Chillingham. In 1839 he received the gold medal of the Royal Astronomical Society for his "Catalogue of the Right Ascensions of 1318 Stars." His Lordship was one of the founders of the society, in 1820. In 1833 he called the attention of the House of Lords to Lieutenant Maury's scheme of meteorological observations and discoveries; and on Nov. 30, 1854, succeeded the Earl of Rosse as President of the Royal Society, which office he resigned in 1857, being succeeded by Sir Benjamin Brodie, the late distinguished surgeon. He has served on several important Royal Commissions, and is the author of "Thoughts on Government and Legislation." The deceased peer was the second Baron. In 1841 he succeeded his father, the first Baron, who during eighteen years (1820 to 1838) represented Staffordshire in the House of Commons, and who was raised to the Peerage in 1838, on the recommendation of Viscount Melbourne, who was Prime Minister in 1828. He is succeeded in his title and estates by his son Arthur, who was born in 1824, and was educated at Rugby, and at Christ Church, Oxford, where he took his B.A. degree in 1846. He has been Captain of the Staffordshire Yeomanry Cavalry since 1852, and Major of the 2nd Staffordshire Militia since 1855. He was married, in 1861, to the Hon. Augusta Elizabeth Denison, daughter of the first Baron Londesborough, and sister of the present peer. Connected with the Wrottesley barony is a baronetcy created in 1612, the first Baronet having received his title for services in the Royal cause during the Civil Wars.



GUNS FOR THE FRENCH IMPERIAL NAVY.

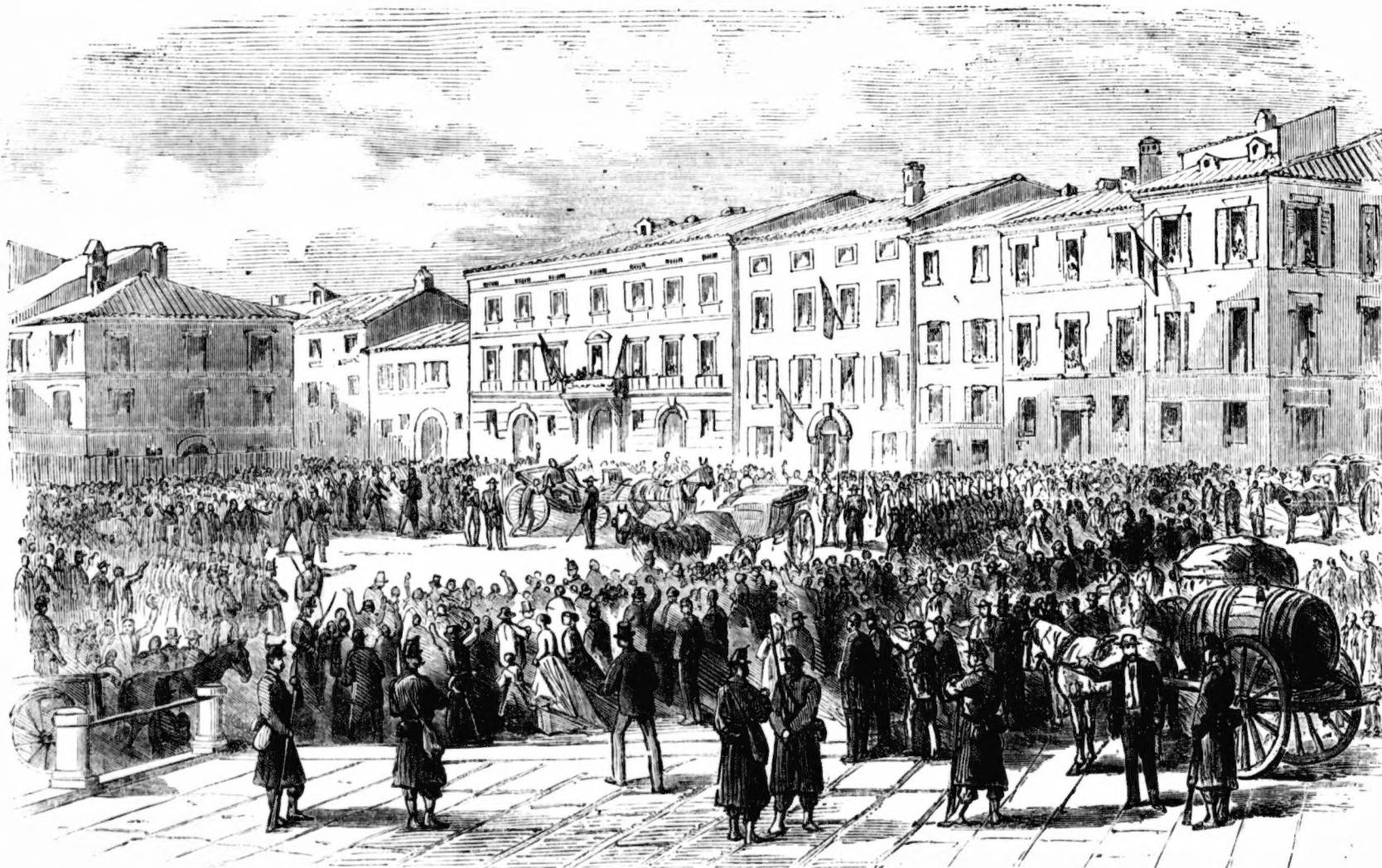
FRENCH MARINE ARTILLERY.

ALTHOUGH we have already illustrated and described the new big guns for the Imperial navy, yet the departure of the French fleet from Toulon for Civita Vecchia, and the possibility of a war with Italy, give renewed interest to those monster cannons, and consequently we now publish an Engraving showing specimens of them. For particulars regarding these guns, we refer our readers to the description given of them in a late number of our Paper, in connection with the model pieces exhibited on the Quay d'Orsay, at Paris. Our present Engraving shows the same weapons from a different standpoint. The French ironclads are shortly to be all furnished with these huge pieces of artillery.

GARIBALDI AT SINALUNGA.

WE have already published the details of the arrest of Garibaldi at Sinalunga, and we this week print an Engraving from a sketch taken of the scene presented in that town on the appearance of the General just before his capture. A large number of volunteers had taken the road to the frontier, where depôts of arms had been made, and whither other arms accompanied or followed them. From Florence and Arezzo General Garibaldi took the direction of the same frontier by way of Sinalunga. When the Government had decided on the arrest of the General, volunteers who were on the road to the Roman frontier, or had already arrived there, were notified to return to their homes, and those who refused were con-

ducted thither. At Sinalunga Garibaldi was ordered in the name of the law to retrace his steps, and, having refused, he was conducted to Alessandria. The town in which the liberator was taken will, henceforth, have a new place in history, and will, perhaps, be no longer a by-word to the Italian jesters, who named it Asinalunga; it seems to be properly named Siena-Lunga, or Long Siena, and is a town about twenty-two miles on the south-south-west of Arezzo. It is a well-built and commodious place enough, with wide, well-formed streets, a handsome collegiate church, where some remarkable paintings have been deposited, a hospital, a theatre, and several other public buildings, as well as spacious squares, one of which is represented in our Engraving.



GARIBALDI AT SINALUNGA.



SCENE FROM "FOR LOVE," AT THE HOLBORN THEATRE: THE TROPICAL ISLAND.



WORKS OF THE SEWAGE UTILISATION COMPANY AT BARKING CREEK.

"FOR LOVE," AT THE HOLBORN THEATRE.

OUR Theatrical Lounger has already given a full notice of Mr. T. W. Robertson's new drama, "For Love," produced a week or two ago at the Holborn Theatre, and a scene from which we this week publish. To that notice it is unnecessary to make any addition, save to say that the last act has been improved and the ship scene made more lifelike. The drama is having a very successful run.

WORKS OF THE METROPOLIS SEWAGE AND ESSEX RECLAMATION COMPANY.

THESE works, now in progress of construction, are the commencement of the scheme for carrying off the whole of the sewage from the northern outfall of the main drainage near Barking. Anyone who has had occasion to pass the outfall near low tide, when the black foetid mass of sewage is slowly passing down the river and leaving a deposit on the northern shore, will at once admit the necessity of having our drainage carried farther from the metropolis. And if, as we are informed, the application of the sewage matter to the green crops in the neighbourhood of Barking has been attended with the best results, there seems a chance of the long vexed question of What shall we do with our sewage? being satisfactorily answered. Our view is taken where the passes conveying the sewage are to cross Barking Creek.

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THE GREAT PROVISION QUESTION.

THIS being "the dull season," there has been a great deal of discussion in the newspapers lately on the provision question, the cost of dinners for City clerks, and similar subjects. Now, there can be no doubt that these are hard times for paterfamilias. Meat is dear—very dear; and the price of bread is high, and getting higher. The bakers, moreover, are addicted to making mistakes in the weight of their loaves—always in favour of themselves, however. Then they forget that the law requires that bread should be weighed on delivery; and, when detected in palming off a light for a full loaf, they try to wriggle out of the difficulty by pretending that certain descriptions of loaves are "fancy bread," and therefore exempt from the legal necessity of being a given weight—that is, four pounds or two pounds, as the case may be. About pretences of this kind there cannot be two opinions, judged from an equitable point of view, whatever may be ultimately decided to be the legal construction of the Act of Parliament bearing on the matter. "Cottage" and "pan" loaves as really purport to be quarterns and half quarterns as any other forms, and should accordingly, therefore, weigh two pounds or four pounds respectively. As such the purchaser buys them and pays for them. A "half-quarter cottage," or a "quarter pan" is the phraseology in common use in ordering such bread, and the loaf supplied upon an order so worded ought to weigh two pounds or four pounds, according as it is a half or a whole loaf. There can be no moral doubt about that; and the baker's plea of "fancy bread" is simply a device to enable him to evade the law and swindle his customers. Under this plea every form of loaf except the old-fashioned and now nearly obsolete "square block," may be denominated "fancy bread," and the law be thereby made of none effect. The great bulk of the bread consumed nowadays is in the form of "French," "cottage," "pan," and "Coburg" loaves; and if these are to be exempted from the operation of law, the bakers have a magnificent field before them in which to play those fantastic tricks to which a large number of the fraternity are unhappily prone. Two pounds of bread ought to be two pounds, of whatever form the loaf may be fashioned. If the law as it stands does not ensure this, then it is high time the law were amended. The price of the loaf is another matter, and is regulated by other considerations altogether. But assuredly, what a man buys and pays for, that he should receive; and we trust that the bakers will be taught that this "fancy" pretence will not serve their turn.

The price of meat and the cost of dinners, as it seems to us, are matters with which it is much more difficult to deal. The ordinary laws of supply and demand, and the influence of competition, ought at first sight to ensure that the public should be supplied at fair and reasonable prices; but it seems to be agreed on all hands that this is not so. A very wide margin is alleged to obtain between the wholesale and the retail price of meat, which margin represents the butcher's profits, which are declared to be exorbitant. Now, we have no doubt that butchers "stick it on" as liberally as they can, and take all the profit they can get, without caring whether that profit may be considered a fair one or not. The rule of trade is to buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market; and, acting on this rule, butchers are at liberty to charge a high price for their commodity—if they can get purchasers to give it; and upon that if the whole question hinges. The butchers do get purchasers to pay high prices, or they could not continue to charge them. It is in vain to abuse the butchers; they only follow the instincts of all traders. The real question is, are not the public themselves to blame in the matter? Are not their tastes and habits such as to naturally draw upon them this so-called extortion? A very great change has come over the

tastes of Englishmen of late years. We are every day getting more fastidious, and dainty, and genteel. The improvement that has recently taken place in our social condition has made us more inclined to indulge in luxurious living than we were wont. We must have everything of the best, and we are not so careful as we might be, and as our fathers were compelled to be, to prevent waste. Then we must have all we want brought to our doors. We will take no trouble to seek for the best bargain. We are all too much ladies and gentlemen for that. The tradesman must come for orders, and then deliver the goods. At best, a servant is intrusted to perform duties that properly belong to the master or the mistress, who play the grand rôle in the parlour while. Can we wonder that advantage is taken of this laziness, or pride, or indifference, and that we are fleeced unconsciously in consequence?

We speak here, of course, of the middle and upper classes; but their influence, for good or for evil, permeates downwards, even to the lowest grade in society. The luxury of the wealthy is aped by the tradesman, who levies "black mail" on all and sundry in order to keep up the prevailing style of living. There is nothing unusual in all this. It is the natural, and invariable, result of great general wealth and a luxurious state of society. And we fear there will be no effective or permanent remedy for it either, so long as the means of paying hold out. Not that the mischief cannot be remedied; but those who might check it will not be at the trouble of trying to do so on a scale sufficiently extensive to have a palpable effect. For our part, we believe that good and cheap meat can be had if people would be at the pains to seek for it, and to drive a bargain with the butcher. But most people in these days are above doing that; they prefer "writing to the newspapers," and proposing schemes which are impracticable to the great bulk of the community. Few householders can go to Leaden-hall or Newgate Markets and buy joints at wholesale prices; they don't want whole joints of beef or carcasses of mutton, and small pieces are much the same price everywhere. Besides, public markets are too few and far apart to be available for general use. A leading contemporary the other day proposed the establishment of a larger number of markets. A very good idea, could it be carried out; but, unfortunately, the tendency of the age is against it. The few public markets we have are badly situated and far from inviting. They are, moreover, rapidly decaying. The shop has superseded the market; and the more stylish the shop, and the more dashing the shopkeeper, the better is his chance of patronage. This is just another phase of that growing taste for elegance and luxury to which we have already referred, and is equally pernicious in its influence. Stylish shops must be paid for—of course by customers; and dashing tradesmen must live—of course at the expense of customers too. We doubt if public markets have much chance of being resorted to by the well-to-do orders of society. But great benefits might be conferred upon the poor by the establishment of such dépôts as that erected by Miss Burdett Coutts on her property in the east end of London. The difficulty is to find sites within convenient reach of the densest and poorest centres of population. Land is very valuable in such places; and there are few proprietors who, like Miss Coutts, are willing to make sacrifices for the good of their poorer neighbours.

Then co-operation has been suggested as an effective means of checking the extortion of tradesmen. That, too, is a good plan, where it can be worked; but it can only be carried on upon a limited scale; and its influence, we fear, will go but a small way in leavening the whole lump of the high-price system complained of. The most effectual remedies for existing evils—and there can be no dispute about the fact of their existence—are, as it seems to us, moderation of individual tastes, personal superintendence of purchases by the heads of families, careful bargain-making, and rigorous prevention of waste. Were these principles strictly acted upon, we are persuaded that fair prices would speedily become the rule and not the exception; wholesale and retail rates would more nearly correspond; and the increased consumption natural in a community rapidly advancing in numbers and wealth would be met by increased production at home and larger importations from abroad. At all events, mere railing at the butchers will not lower the cost of meat; the remedy must be sought elsewhere.

Since the above was written we observe that the journal that has been mainly instrumental in raising the discussion on the provision question sums up the matter in one sentence, thus:—"If buyers are thoughtless, indifferent, or extravagant, sellers will not be at the pains of teaching them better." True, O "Thunderer!" but you have expended a huge amount of noise in coming to that very obvious conclusion.

THE NEW ITALIAN MINISTRY.—General Menabrea, President of the Council, is a native of Savoy, who, on the occasion of the separation, chose the Italian nationality; he belongs to the Right in the Chamber, and is very friendly towards the French Government. General Viale, War, belongs to the old Piedmontese army, and is Aide-de-Camp to the King. M. Gualterio, Interior, has been Prefect at Naples and Palermo, where he has left a reputation as a strict administrator. M. Mari is President of the Chamber of Deputies. Count de Cambray-Digny, Finance, is at present Mayor of Florence, and possesses no reputation as a financier. All these statesmen, with the exception of M. Mari, will not, it is supposed, shrink from measures of repression.

THE LAW OF THE SALE OF BREAD.—The sale of bread out of the city of London and beyond the bills of mortality, and ten miles from the Royal Exchange, is regulated by 6th and 7th William IV., cap. 37. Bakers may make and sell bread of any weight or size; but all bread must be sold by weight (avoirdupois), except French or fancy bread, or rolls. It has recently been decided that "cottage" bread is not French or fancy bread; the quarter loaf should therefore weigh 4 lb. avoirdupois. The penalty under the Act is 40s. for each offence on conviction before the magistrates. Bakers are to provide in their shops scales and weights, and when bread is delivered by cart or carriage every cart or carriage is to carry scales and weights for the purpose, as the Act well says, that the bread may be from "time to time weighed in the presence of the purchaser."

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HIS MAJESTY, it is again rumoured, has resolved to emerge from the comparative seclusion in which she has lived for so long a period, and that the next season will be one of the most brilliant on record during her reign.

PRINCE ARTHUR has quite recovered from the attack of smallpox from which he has recently suffered.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS CHRISTIAN, with their infant son, have returned to Frogmore House from Balmoral.

THE CROWN PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF PRUSSIA have, in consequence of the indisposition of the Princess, abandoned their proposed visit to this country.

THE GRAND DUCHESS OLGA OF RUSSIA is to receive £40,000 down on her marriage with the King of the Greeks, and £10,000 a year afterwards.

LORD LYONS, lately appointed British Ambassador at Paris, in the place of Earl Cowley, has arrived at the Embassy, and already commenced his official duties.

THE EARL OF DERRY has recommended the Rev. Canon Boyd, Incumbent of St. James's, Paddington, for the deanery of Exeter, now vacant by the resignation of Viscount Middleton.

EARL RUSSELL presided on Tuesday evening at the distribution of prizes at the Birkbeck Literary and Scientific Institute. His Lordship made an excellent speech on the occasion, enforcing the necessity for supporting every institution which helps to educate the people.

THE HON. AND REV. BAPTIST NOEL is about to retire from the ministry on account of advancing years.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN INDIA has directed officers commanding divisions and districts to take steps for having all grounds used as cholera camps ploughed immediately after the troops quit them.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF NAPLES was a few days back robbed of his clock while proceeding in his carriage to one of the city churches to administer confirmation.

BAIL has been tendered for Groves, who, having been acquitted of the Bloomsbury murder, was committed on a charge of assault. The bail was in every respect satisfactory, and Groves was released from prison.

ROBERT LINCOLN, son of the late President, has been admitted to the Bar in Chicago.

MR. W. H. WEISS, the popular baritone, died on Thursday night week, in his forty-seventh year.

GENERAL BEAUREGARD has applied for the restoration of certain lands owned by him near Memphis, and it is expected that his request will be granted.

THE SIXTEENTH and last volume of Michelet's "Histoire de France" has just appeared. It treats of the reign of Louis XVI.

THE EARL DOM OF LIANDAFF, which had lapsed, is said now to have a claimant in the person of the eldest son of the late Major Matthew, of Bath. Considerable landed property, now held by the Crown, is appended to the title.

THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES have adopted the Tonic Sol-fa method of teaching singing, and ordered it to be taught in all their schools.

SIR W. MANSFIELD has addressed a communication to the authorities in England to the effect that he does not feel called upon to resign the command-in-chief in India, notwithstanding the publication of the censure passed on him in reference to the Jervis case.

THE PARIS COIFFEURS, finding that the supply of hair for chignons and other monstrosities is becoming exhausted, are now buying up the black tresses of the semi-Spanish inhabitants of South America.

THE TABLE-ROCK ORNAMENTS sold at the Falls of Niagara are manufactured from spar imported into America from Derbyshire, in England.

MGR. BENAGLIA, Bishop of Lodi, Italy, has just entered his hundredth year. His mental faculties are still of surprising lucidity; he reads without glasses, and himself manages most of the affairs of his diocese without his memory or judgment being ever at fault. He also performs the most fatiguing duties of his episcopacy. He has been a Bishop thirty years.

THE "CASKET" (American for coffin) in which the body of the late Elias Howe, sewing-machine inventor, was buried was "lined with satin and inlaid and trimmed with gold."

THE DUTCH have discovered that their prisons are too comfortable, and tempt back convicts, who carry away a fond recollection of the luxuries of incarceration. At least, this is the complaint made in a report by one of the committees of the Second Chamber of the States General.

SOME of the Bishop of Oxford's most influential clergy have declined to obey his Lordship's mandate ordering them to read the Pan-Anglican Encyclical in their churches. It remains to be seen whether his Lordship will feel disposed to enforce the order, or will allow it to drop as a *brutum fulmen*.

TWO POLICEMEN were shot in Dublin on Wednesday. One has since died. The assassin escaped.

THE INQUIRY into the state of the atmosphere of the Underground Railway, arising out of the death of a woman while travelling by it from asphyxia, as it was alleged, was brought to a close on Wednesday. The scientific evidence showed that, although carbonic acid gas was found, it was in proportions too small to be dangerous to human life.

MR. WILLIAM MARTIN, better known as "Peter Parley," is dead. Mr. Martin carried on "Peter Parley's Annual" for twenty-six years. The great characteristic of his genius was its extreme versatility; he could range from butterflies to geometry, and from youthful games to ethics, with equal facility.

THE FOLLOWING DOGGEREL is said to have been inscribed over the doorway of one of the early insurance offices, about the year 1777:—

"Come all you jolly Britons who love your blooming wives,
Insure large sums on your precarious lives,
So that your widows may be rich when you yourselves are rotten,
And they may live in happiness when you are quite forgotten."

THE MAIL STEAM-SHIP ATHRATO has arrived at Southampton with yellow fever on board. She has been placed under quarantine, and her passengers removed to other vessels. One death has occurred since the vessel's arrival.

MR. ROEBUCK has written to the Master Cutler at Sheffield, begging him to exonerate him from his promise to attend the cutlers' feast, in consequence of a painful and weakening attack of illness. The honourable member has happily been able to throw off the attack more easily than usual; but still the effects are such as to make him fear the consequences of the long and cold journey from Dorsetshire, where he is at present residing.

A GENTLEMAN, anxious to extend the operations of the Associate Institution for Improving and Enforcing the Laws for the Protection of Women, has engaged to present to that society a donation of 500 guineas, if nine other contributions of a similar amount can be obtained.

AT ALICANT, in Spain, recently, the bodies of two men were found behind the theatre there, closely locked together. A dagger in the hand of one was buried up to the hilt in the heart of the other. The corpses were rigid, and the features of both wore a frightful expression of anger and hatred. They appear to have fallen together, each pierced by a mortal wound.

GEORGE BUDD, of Ropley, near Alresford, was charged before the Rev. J. T. Maine and Messrs. H. J. Mulcock and W. Beaton, Hampshire county magistrates, at Alresford Petty Sessions, last week, with sleeping in an out-house belonging to Mr. Mulcock; and the dire offence having been proved by P. C. Saunders, the Justices sentenced the delinquent to three months' hard labour in Winchester Gaol.

A BLACKSMITH, NAMED SKATES, was examined at Bow-street, on Monday, on suspicion of being the person who shot Police-constable Saunders, in Burton-crescent, at two o'clock on Sunday morning week. Evidence was given that the accused was on the spot when the outrage took place, and it was stated by the police that he had absented himself from home ever since. He was remanded.

A STORM OF WIND AND RAIN passed over London on Sunday, just about the time that the various congregations were leaving the churches. The rain fell in sheets for some minutes, and the wind was so strong that several houses were unroofed in the south of London. Stormy weather is reported from different parts of the country.

DEATH OF THE CANINE POSTMAN.—The famous retriever dog, Sailor, belonging to Mr. R. Nash, churchwarden of Otford, whose extraordinary sagacity and docility made him a general favourite in this locality, and whose exploits as a letter-carrier have been chronicled, died on Friday, at Broughton Farm, to the great regret of his master and family, to whom he was a most faithful servant. Sailor was for many years "home postman" to Mr. Nash. Regularly every morning he watched for the postman as he came from Sevenoaks into the village, and followed him into Mr. Troughton's shop, where the post-office is kept, and sat patiently watching while the letters were being allotted out, and when Mr. Nash's letters were ready for him he jumped up gaily to the counter and took them in his mouth, going directly home and delivering them to his master. He was about ten years old.—*South-Eastern Gazette.*

DREADFUL GUN ACCIDENT.—Colonel Harrison, of the Indian army, was on Rimside Moor, on Tuesday, shooting with a party, and while walking in front of Sir Hedworth Williamson, the member for North Durham, the trigger of the latter's gun caught a button on his coat and exploded, shooting Colonel Harrison in the leg, tearing the flesh off, and fearfully lacerating it. An officer, a relative of Lord Ravensworth, took the arteries up, and to some extent stanching the bleeding, and deceased was removed to the Vicarage, at Eglingham, where he was attended by several surgeons, but he died during the night. Colonel Harrison was brother of Mr. T. E. Harrison, the civil engineer, and returned home last year, after being twenty-seven years in India.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

Ecco iterum Garibaldi! *Blackwood* is far too late for notice this week; but I steal a line in which to beg every reader to consult *Cornelius O'Dowd* this month, on "Garibaldi's Last."

As a magazine of "society" story, and "society" gossip, *Tinsley's* stands alone; and it is of all the magazines the most readily printed. The type is curiously clear and open, and the page is "leaded"—that is (for the benefit of the uninitiated one may explain), there is a good space between the lines. The "Seaside" illustration is good: it seems to be a "point" with *Tinsley's* to have one thoroughly-admirable woodcut. Dr. Russell's story moves much more naturally than I expected, and must be called interesting.

In *Belgravia*, "Diana Gay" is decidedly clever. I have a leaning towards the author of "Bella Donna"; but the following sentiment is infamous as well as false:—"No one knew better than Kitty Crowder that the amount of public attention and admiration is constant and invariable [what next?], and that, where any favoured object attracts a greater portion, it is only drawn from the shares of others, who suffer in proportion. As he or she ascends, so we go down." This precious bit of moralising is to be found on page 120 of *Belgravia* for November, and is what, perhaps, most people believe; but it is none the less untrue for all that. If people would only just go and live simple, self-respecting lives, neither seeking nor shunning "admiration," they would come to learn the great truth, that of every good thing there is enough for all, and that jealousy and envy are stupid as well as base.

With Mr. Sala's article, "The Cant of Modern Criticism," I agree generally. But his criticism of *Blackwood's* grammar on page 48 is a failure. *Blackwood* is right in both cases. In recompense, what he says of *Blackwood's* French, as not being "society" French, is very happy. But to attribute "jealousy and spite" to the *Blackwood* critic is, surely, very poor work for so strong a pen as Mr. Sala's. And so is the sneer at "Miss Thomas" on page 55. Personal reasons prevent my saying all that might be said of Captain Shandon's "Remonstrance"; but it is obvious that, as the author attacks a gentleman by name, he ought to have signed his article. The artistic difficulty the Captain might have got over by saying that he had requested Mr. So-and-So to deliver the letter. I have also to inform the Captain that he doesn't understand the subject of Plagiarism. Neither the economy of genius in the Middle Ages, nor the good fellowship of genius at the table of the gods in all ages, has anything to say to the trickery of modern cleverness behind the bookseller's shop. More and further, the Captain asks who condemns Sterne's thefts from Rabelais and Burton? Who, Captain? Read Sir Walter Scott's "Lives of the Novelists," and see for yourself. *Who?* Why, every honourable man. Again, says the Captain, who condemns Bulwer for his reminiscences and manipulations of "Tristram Shandy" in "The Caxtons"? Again, Captain, the answer is—every man of honour.

There was a noise about it, too, not so long ago; a noise loud enough to have reached the Captain in Hades, I should have thought. It may, perhaps, be true that justice in the republic of letters does not gain by the singling out of one offender in merely ephemeral literature when the offence is so general and its "economy" so ramifying; but let Captain Shandon think of this:—There are men of letters whom no earthly bribe would tempt to "convey," knowingly, one thought or phrase of another's coining; how does the Captain suppose some of them feel towards a literary thief when they catch him in the act?

The *Broadway* is the best number of the magazine yet issued. Mr. Buchanan, on "Walt Whitman," is highly intelligent (of course), and also exhaustive as far as he carries the subject. "Bull in the Whale's Belly" (a parody on "Shooting Niagara—and After?") is very near being good. The story "Brakespeare" one may leave out of count, because it could surely never have been written originally for grown-up readers. The other portions of the contents are readable, but not particularly noticeable, unless Mr. Cox on "Musical Critics," who evidently knows a good deal of the truth, be an exception.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Everybody will wish Mr. Alfred Wigan success in his new venture. Although he has only appeared in London at long and uncertain intervals for the last few years, his name is as popular as if he had played in a three-act comedy at the Haymarket every night. We all hail him as the very best representative of his own peculiar school of acting that is to be found in England; and every intelligent playgoer must feel a sense of real pleasure at the prospect of the many forthcoming evenings to be associated with his name. Mr. Alfred Wigan has been peculiarly fortunate in one respect—he has been singularly free from imitators. I can only call to mind one gentleman—Mr. Leigh Murray—whose style of acting could be compared with Mr. Alfred Wigan's. But Mr. Murray is no copyist; he is (or, at all events, was) a genuine and original artist. Mr. Wigan's points are inimitable. He is an accomplished gentleman, a singularly careful and conscientious actor, and a remarkably handsome man. He has a horror of rant, claptrap, and stage vulgarity; and he depends solely upon a quiet, natural, and unexaggerated reading, a characteristic, but always probable, bearing, and a careful, conscientious "make-up." These are matters that are beyond the ken of an actor who would condescend to servile imitation. They are defects in the eyes of the fifth or sixth rate men, who attempt to build a reputation on another man's success. Now that Mr. Leigh Murray is no longer acting, Mr. Hare, of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, is the actor who, in certain parts, approaches Mr. Alfred Wigan's style most nearly; but Mr. Hare is a purely original actor, and the points that he and Mr. Wigan have in common are a quiet, gentlemanly bearing, a horror of mere artifice, and a curiously delicate appreciation of character—qualities, which cannot be assumed as easily as the peculiarities of Mr. Toole, Mr. Webster, or Mr. Fechter. Of the new *QUEEN'S* I propose to say little. Its architectural merits have already been discussed at full length in all the morning papers, and those authorities appear to agree pretty generally as to its merits and its defects. Certainly the accommodation for the audience is comfortable; more so, perhaps, than in any other London theatre; but there is a cold flatness and a severe classical monotony about the ornamentation which is suggestive rather of a florid South Kensington lecture-room than a temple of the drama. There is a want of warmth in the colour of the drapery, and an elaboration of detail in the proscenium which asserts itself rather too prominently. The opening comedieta, "He's a Lunatic," by Mr. Felix Dale, is pleasantly and brightly written, and, without any pretension to a complex plot, provides Mr. Clayton with one of those "rattling" patter parts which are usually associated with recollections of Mr. Charles Mathews. I am afraid I must admit that the drama which follows it, "The Double Marriage," is rather a heavy specimen of its class; its plot is complicated and "seesawing," and there is a want of probability about it which, in these days of realism, is a serious drawback. The piece might be materially shortened, and therefore improved, by knocking the second and third acts into one; a very slight alteration would, I think, render this possible. There is an old lady in it (played by Mrs. Saville) who talks a great deal too much, and a middle-aged Captain (played by Mr. Wigan) who does not talk half enough. The two principal female characters are very well drawn by Mr. Charles Reade, and excellently acted by Miss Fanny Addison and Miss Ellen Terry. Captain Raynal (Mr. Wigan) is a fine specimen of a blunt, good-hearted Republican "ranker," and, of course, Mr. Wigan plays it in a masterly style. Mr. Wyndham impersonates an unsatisfactory lover with excellent taste, and Mr. Stephens makes a small part prominent by the undemonstrative manner in which he played it. Miss Hodson and Mr. Lionel Brough also made favourable impressions, but Mr. Brough should struggle with, and if possible overcome, a tendency to copy Mr. Toole. It is a pity that the author, in his desire not to offend an English audience, should have thought fit to invent a marriage with Camille Dujardin, for Josephine, instead of allowing her to have an illegitimate child, as in the original story. It appears to me that modern English dramatists make a mistake in supposing that their principal female characters must necessarily be people of spotless

virtue. Lady Macbeth is far from being a model of womanly rectitude; but the ambitious Thane's wife is considered a good part for all that. The first three acts of the piece are exceedingly well written, though, in parts, rather prosy; the two last are much too melodramatic in their character to please a refined audience. But, with all its drawbacks, the piece has merits which ought to command intelligent attention.

Mr. Burnand's burlesque, "Mary Turner; or, the Wicked Willin and Virtue Victorious," at the HOLBORN, is simply bad. I may be unpardonably blind to the fun of spelling words with a W that properly begin with a V, and of printing "Maritana" "Mary Turner;" but I write according to my lights, and I confess that the fun of the thing is lost upon me. The last poor jokelet is not even original, as the Christy Minstrels played a rough burlesque on the opera, under the name of "Mary Tanner," some time since. The fun of the piece is purely practical—there is hardly a line in it that bears a tolerable joke. The plot of the piece is hopelessly confused, and the music is, for the greater part, of the most detestable music-hall stamp. Mr. Burnand can do better things than this. He is an accomplished humourist, as his admirable contributions to *Punch* testify; and I can only suppose that the extraordinary success of "Black-eyed Susan"—which does not contain one good line—has induced him to think that broad, outrageous business will do more to carry a burlesque through than a clearly told plot, studded with ingenious puns. If "Mary Turner" had the advantage of the assistance of Mr. Dewar and Miss Oliver, it might perhaps have a tolerable run; as it is, it will be nothing short of miraculous if it goes on till Christmas. The burlesque is, on the whole, fairly acted; Miss Saunders is, of course, excellent, though in a very poorly-written part. Mr. Garden is funny as a developed "General Boom," and Mr. Montague caused much amusement by a capital "make-up," after Mr. Bancroft in "Caste." Miss Josephs shows to less advantage than she usually does in burlesque, and Miss Willmore was quite overweighed as Don Caesar. A part, played by Mr. Willmott in petticoats, was even more repulsive than such exhibitions usually are. The scenery is good, and the dresses magnificent.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE COMMONS' HOUSE.

AFTER long-continued groanings and lamentations, sometimes rising into shrieks, upon the want of room in the House of Commons, it was ordered, on June 25 last, that a Committee be appointed "to consider whether any alterations can be made in the arrangements of the House so as to enable a greater number of members to hear and take a part in its proceedings; and that the said Committee should consist of Mr. Bazley, Mr. Bright, Mr. Baillie Cochrane, Mr. Cardwell, Mr. William Cowper, Lord Enfield, Lord Elcho, Sir Frederick Heygate, Mr. Hankey, Mr. Beresford Hope, Mr. Lawson, Lord Hotham, Mr. Tite, Lord John Manners, and Mr. Headlam," all good men and true—in short, a good and sufficient working Committee. But afterwards—viz., on July 1—Mr. Darby Griffith, as being one of the loudest grumblers, was added to the Committee; and, thus finally constituted, it proceeded to business. Mr. Bright, though, practically seceded; for he did not appear at any of the meetings. He was in the thick of the Reform fight in July, and had neither time nor mind for such a business as this. The Committee met seven times and examined many witnesses; and now there lies before me the evidence of these witnesses, together with plans of the alterations proposed for consideration, and attached to the evidence is an explanatory report by Mr. Barry. But the Committee, it would seem, came to no decision. It will resume its duties next Session. Meanwhile, the Chief Commissioner of Works was to obtain plans and sections of the several Houses of Assembly and Chambers of Deputies at Paris, Washington, Ottawa, Berlin, Vienna, Florence, and Brussels. When the Committee shall have got these plans, most likely more evidence will be given. What effect the evidence already taken may have produced upon the minds of the Committee cannot be known. Your Lounger, though, who has carefully studied it, may give you readers the effect of the testimony upon his own mind. The conclusion, then, which has with irresistible power forced itself upon his mind is this—viz., that by no mere alteration can the present House be made, what it ought to be, of sufficient capacity to seat the members comfortably, with suitable rooms, offices, and convenient place to enable the Ministers of the Crown and the officers of the House effectually to carry on the business; and that if the House is to be re-formed, the only thing to be done is to re-form it altogether.

There are 658 members of Parliament. The present House will seat 406 on the floor and 124 in the galleries: total, 430; balance of members without seats, 228. This House was opened some fifteen years ago. It was built regardless of cost; and this is where we are now—two hundred and twenty-eight of our representatives cannot find seats. It was a most monstrous blunder, you will say, to make it so small, and you will naturally ask, whose fault was it? Well, on this matter, I think I may say decidedly it was not Sir Charles Barry's. He acted under the direction of a Committee. It would seem, then, that the Committee were to blame. It appears that the Committee acted under a nervous anxiety lest the House should be made too large, and they fell into the opposite extreme of making it too small. It is quite true that there are rarely more than 550 members present, and perhaps a House that would comfortably seat 550 would be large enough; but a cribbed, cabined, and confined box that will not hold more than 430, is, on the face of it, an absurdity.

As I have said, there are several plans attached to this report. Plan A, by Mr. Barry, by which he could make the House hold 319 on the floor and 122 in the galleries: total, 441, being an increase of eleven seats only. This may be dismissed at once. Plan B lengthens the House northwards, and places the Speaker's chair further back. By this Mr. Barry could accommodate 486 members. The seats at the ends of the House are in this plan curved. But it will not do. We should then have 172 men without places. Besides, the arrangement is bad. The Ministers and the Opposition leaders' seats are in the centre, far from the Speaker and the table—a feature of the plan quite fatal. Plan C, by Mr. Barry, is the same as plan B, with the seats rectangularly placed. Here we have accommodation for 589, which would be sufficient. But this can only be secured by lessening the accommodation for peers, already insufficient. Moreover, the plan provides for none of those conveniences, such as Ministerial rooms, more room for reporters, &c., so loudly demanded. In short, this plan, though it looks plausible at first sight, will not, I think, do. If any change is to be made it must be exhaustive and final. Plan D is an entirely new house built on the space now occupied by the Crown Court and the refreshment-rooms, retaining the present house as the lobby, and the present division-lobbies as news-rooms or writing-rooms. In short, this plan embraces all that is required. It would seat 458 members on the floor, 100 in the gallery: total, 558; quite as many as ever want seats under any circumstances. The plans presented by Mr. Bazley and Mr. Hankey may be dismissed without comment, as Mr. Barry says that the expense of these plans would be greater than that of a new edifice, and would require the building of a temporary house; whereas, if plan D were to be adopted, no temporary house would be needed. I might say much more about this plan, more in its favour, and offer some criticism upon its details; but the subject will turn up again and again. It is sufficient to add only a few remarks. First, then, something must be done. The inconveniences of the present House have become all but intolerable. They will be quite so when the reformed Parliament shall assemble; for the more popular you make the House of Commons, the more you will increase the average number of members present. Second, if any alteration be made, it seems to me that the House must come to the conclusion that it will be better and cheaper to build a new chamber than materially to alter the old one. No alteration of the old House can give all that is required; whereas, by building a new House, everything that is wanted may be obtained. But the expense! Well, Mr. Barry wisely abstained from entering upon that. But, be it never so great, it ought not to induce the severest economist to pause in obtaining a suitable, convenient, and sufficiently capacious chamber in which the Commons can perform

their increasingly important business without unnecessary discomfort and fatigue. Mr. Hine, of the Treasury bench, the hardest-worked official in the Government, says in his evidence that he has often had to stand for hours, unable to get a seat. On behalf of the press, and the accommodation required by the Fourth Estate, Mr. Ross, the manager of the reporting department of the *Times*, was examined; and Mr. Clifford (which paper he represented he did not say), and Mr. Mould, of the *Morning Herald*. The evidence of Mr. Ross was clear, concise, and given in a gentlemanly manner. He told the Committee that he had been in the gallery forty-seven years. He, on the whole, was satisfied with all the arrangements, and said, "that if the reporters generally had experienced the want of accommodation which formerly prevailed, they would feel that they had good reason to be satisfied with that which they now enjoy." But Messrs. Clifford and Mould spoke in a very different style. Their tone was somewhat haughty, arrogant, and when speaking of the Serjeant-at-Arms they were by no means complimentary, albeit, as it appears by the evidence of Lord Charles Russell, that all the extra conveniences which they have of late enjoyed were given by his orders. It was at his request that the gallery was lengthened by an encroachment upon the members' gallery. It was he who gave them the chamber at the bottom of the staircase, where the reporters can smoke, and lounge, and take tea; and he allowed them the use of No. 18 Committee-room. True, they cannot have it at morning sittings, and *hinc illa lacryma*. This it seems was very irritating to Messrs. Clifford and Mould. "Why could they not have it?" The answer was because it was wanted as a Committee-room. This, though, was not deemed satisfactory by these gentlemen. If anyone will take the trouble to read the dignified reply of Lord Charles Russell, he will see that everything that could be done has been done to accommodate the reporters; but Lord Charles Russell is not omnipotent. He is an important functionary, and has considerable powers; but he cannot make space. The demands of Messrs. Clifford and Mould are rather amusing. They want a dining-room for forty or fifty people, under the control of the Kitchen Committee, who would arrange the tariff according to the various incomes of the gentlemen of the gallery. Rather a difficult task this, one would think. They require a cloak-room, with a lavatory; a messengers' room, a writing-room, and all the papers of the House, and all the bluebooks; and Mr. Clifford would have a copy of the Delphic classics, consisting of over a hundred volumes; and they desire to be placed under the control of the House, and not to be subjected "to the caprice of the Serjeant-at-Arms." "What do you think of this quarrel between the Serjeant and the reporters?" said I, to an old reporter. "Well," he replied, "it's my opinion that Lord Charles Russell has done all he could for our convenience with the very limited space at his command, and whenever a complaint has been made it has always been promptly and courteously attended to." And this is true. But, nevertheless, the accommodations behind the gallery are susceptible of improvement; and if the House should be rebuilt no doubt they will be made more convenient.

THE LOUNGER.

PARIS GOSSIP.

WHETHER Garibaldi be shot, or hanged, or triumphantly plant his banner on the Vatican, is all one; the French Government, as everybody sees, has got itself into an *impasse*—a blind alley—which it cannot get out of. Not a single one of the parties in France is satisfied. The Republicans—for that is the real name of the democratic party—are furious, but bridled; and the *Courrier Français*, their organ, is to be prosecuted for saying, "The Emperor has done it all." The Ministerial papers proclaim the more than divine-like wisdom of the Government in what it has done or attempted. The honour of France is saved, and war is not made upon Italy. The Ultramontanists see only a got-up farce in the entire thing, in which the Elect of the People pulls the strings after having arranged the programme; and the Conservatives, represented by the *Debats*, who care nothing for Italy and less for the Pope, provided they can get hold of a stick to beat the Emperor, are chagrined beyond measure that the crisis is not likely to end in a general war. The great bulk of the French people, who belong to no party, and have only a dim notion of what parties are, seem content to leave the direction of affairs in Napoleon's hands.

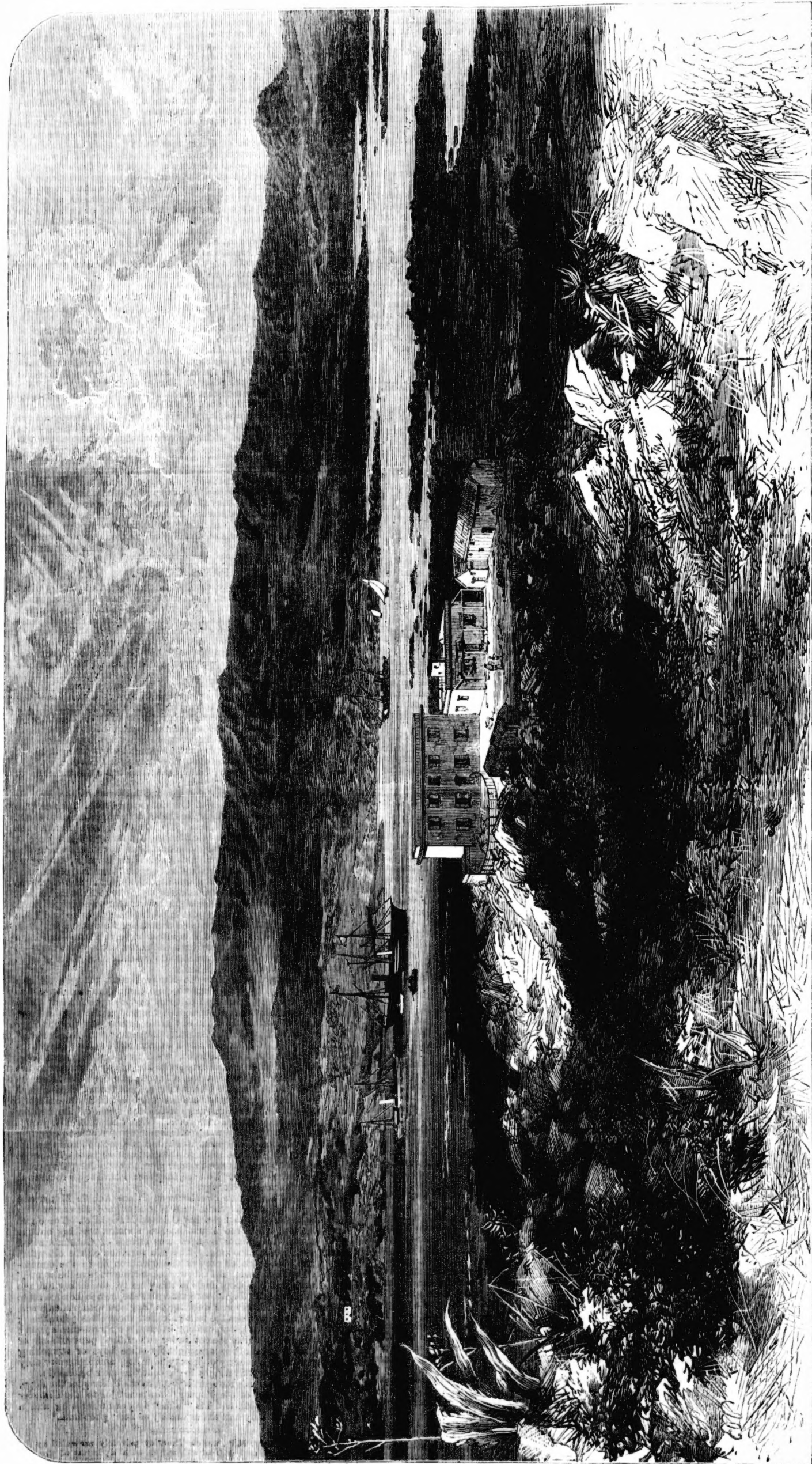
The Emperor of Austria and his two brothers excite very little interest here except amongst the Court and official flunkies. To hear the latter one would imagine that Austria had returned to earth. There have been dinners, and illuminations, and meaningless speeches; but the most practical thing done was the slaughter of 1900 head of game, mostly pheasants, at a battue, where the Emperor Franz-Josef played first gun. His brothers, having no stomach for this kind of sport, did not appear; and Napoleon himself, although present in body, was absent in spirit. His cigar was always going out, and he was as often trying to re-light it; he had been knocked up at twelve the night before, and was engaged until five in the morning sending and receiving telegrams to and from Florence and Toulon. There is no accounting for tastes; but when wild boars are to be found within fifteen miles of Paris—two huge fellows were with difficulty speared and shot at Poissy last week—it does seem odd that sportsmen should pass their time in doing what poultry-butchers could do far better.

Before leaving his Majesty the Kaiser, I must tell you that an order of the day, issued by General Canrobert on the occasion of the grand review, has given rise to some curious speculation. The Marshal says that the fine attitude of the troops, the regularity of the line of battle, the precision of the movements, and the accuracy of the firing off, gave the Austrian Emperor "great satisfaction." *Que diable!* Then, Francis Joseph expects to find these fine troops at his side, and not in his front, when next armies assemble in battle array! Here is a *bonne bouche* for the quidnuncs who are cock-sure of a Franco-Austrian alliance; nor does the inference seem so strained, after all. Meanwhile, some of these wicked-minded writers of the "petty press" are raking up old Chauvin chansons, commemorative of the drubbings which the uncle of the nephew gave to the white-coated Austrians. When Napoleon III. paid a visit to London I think you kept all memorials of Waterloo carefully out of sight; but I feel pretty sure that if Queen Victoria should come to Paris again, the generous-hearted and *ne plus ultra* polite people would reprint at once in their journals everything they could rake up about Fontenoy. You see, they would have to go somewhat further back than this century.

I mentioned last week a duel between Prince Achille Murat and the Marquis de Rouget. Since then Murat resigned his commission in order to be able to fight his Colonel, M. Gallifet. These two have met, and again the Murat has been victor, washing out the stain cast on his honour by a copious stream of Gallifet's blood drawn from beneath the knee. This is a variation on the old witch lore which made the efficacy of the operation lie in the circumstance that the cleansing red tide was taken from "above the breath." There have been two more duels in this vicinity, something like the celebrated one of the Regent-street mercer's shopmen in London some years back, which covered duelling in England with ridicule and killed it. In these cases the fellows called themselves journalists; but I have reason to know that one, at least, is a pharmacist's young man, and another writes the covers for subscribers' papers to one of the journals. The others are probably office boys or something of that sort. In a country of liberty, equality, and fraternity they have, of course, as good a right to "go out" as their betters (?).

The Duke de Luynes has sent 50,000*fr.* to the *Univers* for the Pope. "A desperate hater of the Papacy" has sent 9*fr.* to the *Courrier Français* for Garibaldi, and his "wife" 4*fr.*, and a farthing and a half. She hates only half as desperately as her "gude man."

MR. JOHN BRIGHT, M.P., was on Thursday privately presented by the Mayor of Rochdale, on behalf of subscribers, with a portrait of the late Mr. Richard Cobden, photographed by Mr. Eastham, of Manchester, and painted in oil by M. Cluvelax, of Paris. It was taken previously to Mr. Cobden's visit to France to negotiate the French treaty; and it represents him in full stature, seated on a chair in his library, and on a pedestal the bust of his friend Chevalier.



GARIBALDI'S ISLAND HOME, CAPRERA, WITH THE ROYAL SHIPS ON GUARD.

As everything connected with Garibaldi possesses a special interest at the present time, our readers will be pleased to have placed before them the accompanying engraving, representing the General's island home previous to his recent escape, and while Caprera was guarded by a squadron of the Italian fleet. In our Number for Sept. 22, 1860, there appeared a view of Garibaldi's house on Caprera as it then existed. Since then, however, the place has been greatly altered. Several of the out-houses have been pulled down, and a new dwelling-house—which occupies the most prominent position in our present view—has been erected. The old house still remains, to the right of the new structure. But the most interesting matter connected with Caprera at present is the General's escape from it. Here, it was supposed, the Italian Government had safely caged the lion. A squadron of the Royal fleet cruised around the island, boats from which were constantly prying into every nook and corner on the

coast, jealously watching that no one either came to or left the General's place of detention. Notwithstanding all this, however, Garibaldi managed to elude the vigilance of his gaolers—for such in reality they were—and to escape to the mainland, there once more to revive the cry of "Rome or death!" that for a time had failed. Whatever may be the result of Garibaldi's present enterprise, there can be no doubt that his escape from Caprera is not the least romantic of the incidents which have characterized his wonderful career. The details of the event yet published are rather meagre; but a correspondent, writing from Terni on the 22nd ult., gives the following particulars:—"When the story of Garibaldi's escape is known in all its details, it will be considered one of the most extraordinary on record. Seven men-of-war, gun-boats, steam-tugs, all the fishing-craft of the islands round sequestered by the Government, and he managed to evade them all. The large fishing-boat (Tartana) which finally restored him to us left Leghorn on the 6th with his son-in-law, a young Sardinian, a captain, and six sailors; and, after four days

fearful weather, they made the coast of Corsica, then tacked down to St. Maria (the most northern of the islands between Corsica and Sardinia), dressed as fishermen, took a little boat, and were nearing Caprera, when six boats full of armed men surrounded them, forbidding them 'to fish again in those waters.' The officers landed them at the island of Maddalena. The difficulties of warning the General were extreme, but they were overcome in a way that may be told later. Ballo and Maurizio got to Maddalena with Teresa, the Prince Humbert firing at them in vain. Garibaldi chose to manage the affair in his own way. From the moment he felt sure of his arrest he had hidden a tiny cockleshell-boat among the rocks. In this he paddled himself to Maddalena, bid there for a day and night, and crossed the island, rowed thence to Sardinia in a boat, and, after seventeen hours all homeless, reached the Tartana at Prandichini, and on the 19th landed at Vada." A Florence correspondent says that on Garibaldi's arrival at Vada, the horses were taken from the carriage in which the General was seated and he was drawn by the people to the residence

prepared for him. Garibaldi then made the following speech, amid the wildest enthusiasm:—"I am truly happy to behold once more, after about twenty years, this dear city in which I receive such generous hospitality, and I am equally delighted to perceive such cordiality between the people and the army. We will go to Rome. We will go to Rome with the volunteers of the people and our brave soldiers. Yes, we will go to Rome in a walk. This is the happiest day of my life. Your demonstration is a spectacle really astonishing, and I thank you for making it. Meantime, adieu! I salute you with all my heart." At Florence, which he visited before proceeding to the front, the multitude assembled before the house in which Garibaldi was staying. The General, from the balcony, said:—"The people, with the fraternal concurrence of the army, will enter very soon into possession of the Roman territory, which has been soiled but too long by foreigners. As to myself, I pledge you I will do my duty to the death." Later in the afternoon Garibaldi left for Foligno and Terni by special train. It is said that when Rattazzi, as Minister of the Interior,

was asked to put a locomotive at Garibaldi's disposal, he replied, "Instead of one, give him two." Garibaldi had with him Basso, his son-in-law, and a dozen men as body-guard.

CONDAR, THE OLD CAPITAL OF ABYSSINIA.

THE Rev. Henry A. Stern, one of the captives now detained in Abyssinia by King Theodore, gives the following account, in his recently published work, "Wanderings among the Falashas in Abyssinia," of a visit he paid some years since to the ancient capital of the country, and of the appearance the city presented ere it was destroyed by the King's orders:—

"The general anxiety to reach Gondar, the capital of Abyssinia and the loadstone of the natives, before evening, imparted fresh strength and elasticity to our footsore people, and they bounded along at a rate that would have entitled them to the prize had they been running a race. A brisk march of several hours brought us to Magatch, which is spanned by a bridge of five arches. There we met a good number of people who were on their way to the market of the metropolis. The commodities which they had for sale or barter were of the most motley character conceivable. Here was a man sweating under a heavy bag of tef, and a little further on, walked a woman carefully supporting on her elaborately-curved head a crushing gumbo of honey. Now passed a whole group charged with garlic and onions, chillies and pepper; in a few minutes more came a procession of donkeys, almost smothered beneath bulky and shapeless bales of lowland cotton; and anon, the rugged and steep highway was blocked up by droves of oxen and cows, destined to furnish *brando* joints to the inhabitants of the city. The peripatetic speculators in the animal and vegetable creation of Ethiopia gazed at us in wondering surprise, and, for the nonce, business was merged in the conjectures excited by the visit of the strangers. They were all exceedingly civil to us, and we passed without inconvenience through the steaming and gaping crowd.

"The animated scene presented by the multitude hurrying to market beguiled the tediousness of our journey, and brought us in less time than we anticipated to the capital of King Theodoros. His Grace the Metropolitan having kindly placed the archiepiscopal

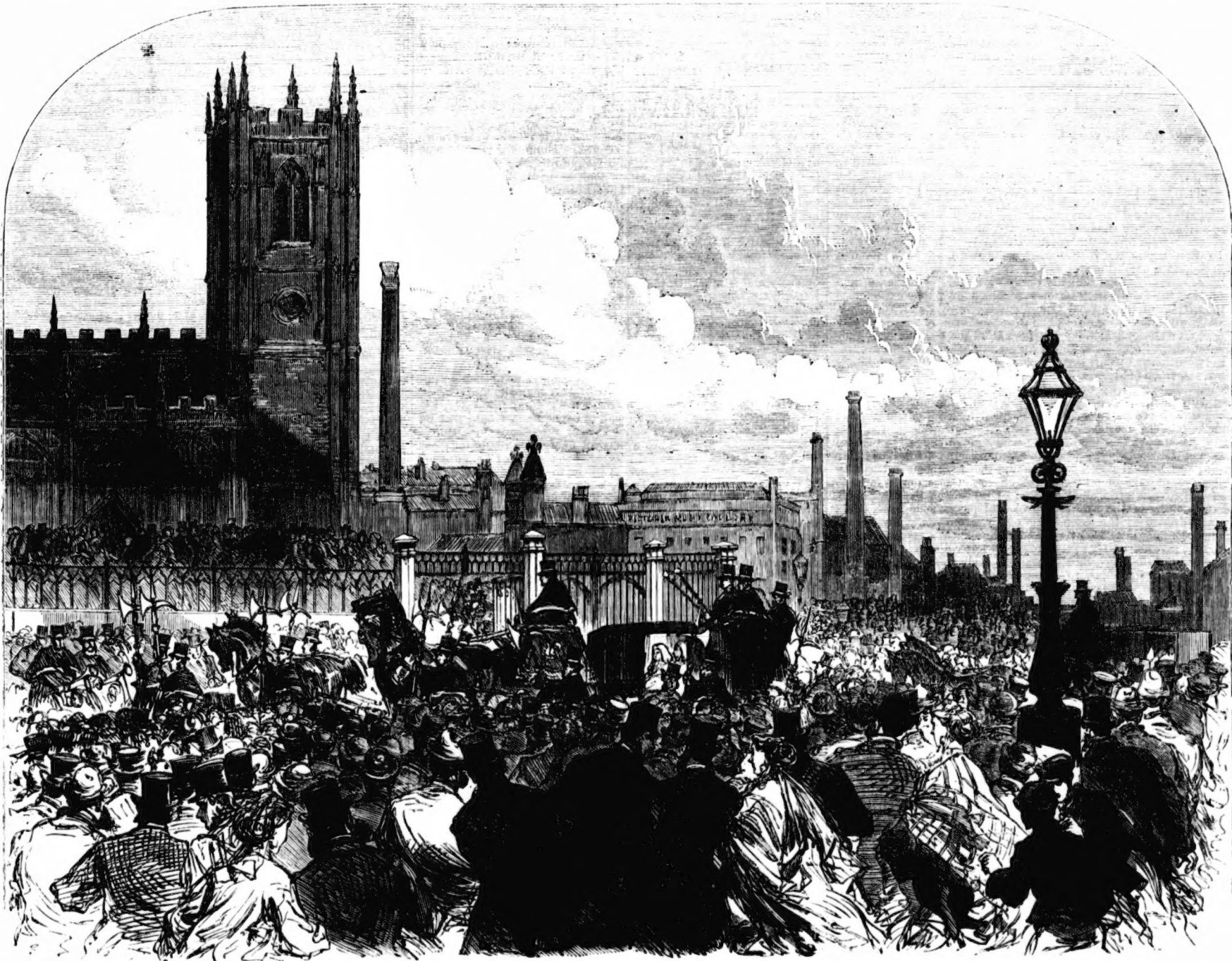
residence at our disposal, we made straight for Kudas Gabriel, where the Primate's steward, who had already been apprised by a special messenger of our intended visit, gave us a hearty and cordial reception.

"The Aboona's palace, which evidently does not date back to the time of the magnificent Prester John, to whom certain questionable authorities assign an Abyssinian origin, stands at the southern corner of a spacious square. On one side of the quadrangle are a range of low stables and the hovels of the domestics; on another, a garden with a few more primitive and unsightly dens, in which house the domestic chaplains, clerks, and shams of the Primate; the remaining space is monopolised by plantations of briars and nettles, varied by heaps of decomposing matter and stagnant pools. These unseemly sights and smells did not in the least trouble us. We were tired, and a stone and mud house, where one could lie down without fear of being devoured by beasts of prey, was a luxury that amply compensated for many trifling inconveniences. Influenced by these considerations, we leaped from our saddles, and, bounding up a flight of dilapidated stone stairs, found ourselves in a small narrow vestibule, whence we groped our way into a dark and dusty room. The entrance was nearly choked up with hay and straw, which excluded every ray of light from gaining ingress at the door; happily,

dantly supplied from the Aboona's flocks and herds, I sallied forth at the first flush of day to have a quiet and undisturbed view of Gondar. An overhanging grassy platform in the rear of our premises, just opposite the Gimp, or castle, afforded me the best position for satisfying my curiosity. Standing on that spot, I beheld, as in a shifting panorama, the various groups of houses and churches which occupy the northern and south-western side of this strange city. The widely-separated and distinct clusters of houses, interspersed with fields and trees, presented, in the golden glow of the morning, a very striking and pleasing sight. There, just beneath my feet, in a deep ravine, overlooked by several conically-shaped huts, a sparkling brook leaped over its rocky bed, down to the river Gaba, where, almost in the sight of the populous Mohammedan quarter, called Islam Beit, Mr. Plowden, the English Consul, received his death-blow from a freebooter's lance. From this glen, up on a verdant heath, lay the Etcheque Beit, where the ecclesiastical head of the monks and the more respectable inhabitants have their dwellings. On the left of that irregular elevation, stretched Baca, with its large church and extensive groves, crumbling walls and squalid hovels; and quite on the summit, beyond the eyes' ken, gleamed in the blazing sun the tottering towers and ruined halls of the once stately, but now decayed and almost uninhabitable palace.



GONDAR, THE FORMER CAPITAL OF ABYSSINIA.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY THE REV. H. A. STERN)



THE ROYAL COMMISSION AT MANCHESTER: THE JUDGES ON THEIR WAY TO THE CATHEDRAL.

A plaintive and melancholy wail, which suddenly broke on my ear, induced me to return to the square, to witness the funeral ceremonies of a young woman who had died the previous night. The priests and deacons, who, out of respect for their Primate's servant, mustered in strong force, came all fully robed; and their flaring and tawdry canonicals ill accorded with the mournful ceremony they were about to perform. Some of the priests went into the house where the deceased lay, to comfort the bereaved relatives; but the greater number continued outside, waving incense and chanting the *Wadaye Miryam*, or "*Ave Maria*." The corpse, which in the mean time had been washed and dressed, was then laid on an altar, and the procession formed. On seeing this, the relatives and friends gave vent to their uncontrollable grief in the most violent lamentations and agonising cries. Some frantically grasped the bier as if they would still retain the beloved object; others gave utterance to the heart's intense despair by sobs and sighs, by tearing their hair, rending their clothes, and even by dashing their nails into their neck and face till the blood trickled down in copious streams. The most affecting and touching sight was the mother, the old grandmother, and two sisters, who, each with some trifling memento of the departed in their clasped hands, ran distractedly about the court, telling every one some story or incident connected with those precious relics of an undying love, which they continually pressed to their lips or held to their throbbing hearts.

The prayers being ended, the bier was lifted on the shoulders of the bearers, and, preceded by the priests, moved on towards the church. I did not follow; but, as it may interest the reader of these pages, I will add the concluding ceremonies connected with the interment of the dead. On emerging from the gate, or inclosure, where the corpse lies, a halt is made, when the priests chant a portion of the 119th Psalm, and the confessor, on the receipt of a salt, formally absolves the deceased. This ceremony, whatever the distance to the cemetery may be, is repeated seven times. On arriving near the tomb, the friends and relations are once more allowed to gaze on the dear object of their affections; and then, during the reading of the concluding eight verses of the above Psalm, the body, confined or unconfined, is lowered into the grave. The mourners now retire to the home of the deceased, where every morning, for a whole week, the *Lekko*, or wailing ceremony, is repeated. During this period no fire may be kindled in the house nor any food prepared; but all the wants of the bereaved must be provided for by the friends and neighbours, who willingly do this, as it is considered a good and meritorious work.

THE FENIAN TRIALS AT MANCHESTER.

THE Royal Commission for the trial of the Fenian prisoners accused of the murder of Sergeant Brett, at Manchester, was formally opened by Mr. Justice Mellor on Saturday last. On Sunday the Judges appointed to hold the Commission—Mr. Justice Blackburn and Mr. Justice Mellor—attended Divine service in the cathedral, in accordance with customary usage. The learned Judges rode to and from the cathedral in the carriage of the High Sheriff. After service a singular incident occurred whilst the Judges were being driven to their lodgings. When the High Sheriff's carriage, containing Mr. Justice Blackburn, Mr. Justice Mellor, and the Under Sheriff, was slowly turning the corner of the inclosed area fronting the lodgings a person was seen to move from the crowd, and, after stepping over the chains, he passed across the inclosure in the direction of the carriage. He seemed a youngish man, and was dressed in dark clothing, his general appearance being that of a club waiter or private messenger. He advanced leisurely to the carriage, and, approaching the window (which was closed), handed forward something, with a gesture signifying that he wished the window to be opened, so that he might deliver himself of his errand. Mr. Justice Mellor, who was seated on that side of the carriage, opened the window and received the packet, which turned out to be a plain silver watch. The man, after handing in the watch, retired and joined the crowd, his demeanour being so quiet and business-like that neither the spectators nor the detectives, who were watching him, suspected anything odd, and he was permitted to go away unmolested and unquestioned. Mr. Justice Mellor desired that the watch should be given to the police, with instructions for its restitution to its owner if he can be found.

The leading facts connected with the late outrage are so fresh in public recollection that little more is needed than a recapitulation of dates. It will be recollected that on Sept. 18 Kelly and Deasey, two Fenian leaders, who had been arrested about a fortnight previously, and already remanded upon two occasions, were in process of removal with other prisoners in the van from the police court to the city gaol, when the organised attack took place which resulted in the death of Sergeant Brett and the wounding of other police officers. The numbers of the attacking party were variously estimated, but appear to have been about forty altogether. Arrests in excess of that number were made, but some of the persons taken into custody upon suspicion were discharged, and the names of but twenty-six prisoners remain upon the special calendar. The preliminary investigation before the magistrates commenced on Sept. 19, and extended, with adjournments, over a period of nearly three weeks. Eight or nine days were actually occupied in taking evidence, and a period at least equal in duration is assigned by public expectation to the sittings of the Special Commission. With a view to attract as little attention as possible, the prisoners were removed shortly after eight o'clock on Monday morning from the Salford or county gaol, where they are now confined for greater safety, to the precincts of the Courthouse. This was accomplished under strong military escort. A troop of hussars, with swords drawn, preceded the van, in the immediate vicinity of which marched two companies of the 72nd Highlanders, with fixed bayonets; and the procession was closed by another party of hussars. Upon the front of the van five police constables were seated, and two police inspectors, with cutlasses, stood upon the step behind. The cortège moved at a rapid pace, and the whole party wore an air of readiness for immediate action; but, beyond the ordinary amount of excitement or curiosity which the passage of military through the streets never fails to excite, there was little manifestation of sentiment by the public. In the vicinity of the Courthouse careful precautions were taken against surprise or the assembling of large crowds. Police constables patrolling in pairs, every second man with a revolver in his belt, kept persons as far as possible from loitering; and admission to the body of the court, though granted freely as far as space permitted, was, nevertheless, regulated with considerable care. The Courthouse, which was completed about three years ago, is a handsome building, Gothic in character, and internally, perhaps, the most elegant and commodious in arrangement of any similar structure in the kingdom. To some extent it may doubtless be regarded as the shadow of coming events in the metropolis, each of the designs exhibited in Lincoln's Inn having points of resemblance, at least, to the creation of Mr. Waterhouse. As regards the furniture or fittings of the court, there is an entire absence of red curtains, and generally of the stuffy air of the courts at Westminster. This, no doubt, is largely due to the fact that upon two sides of the court a portion of the wall may be said to consist almost of glass, light being admitted through no less than fourteen windows, each 12 ft. or 13 ft. in height. The sides of the court which have not been pierced for windows, yet continue the series, as it were, having recesses with similar outlines, suggestive of niches in which frescoes might hereafter be deposited. The only deviation from the striking and yet graceful simplicity of the interior is the legend placed beneath the principal gallery, and immediately fronting the witness-box, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour."

At nine o'clock the doors of the court were thrown open, and although a very large number of the public assembled in the locality expecting to get admittance, it having been stated that no tickets were required, from some arrangement or other but comparatively few realised their object, for during the short sitting of the Court there were not more than 200 persons present. The arrangements that had been made inside the court for the accommodation of those present on business appeared to answer admirably. The dock, which

is a raised, circular inclosure in the centre of the court, in which seats had been erected for the prisoners, surmounted by numbers ranging from one to twenty-six, formed a very conspicuous and novel feature, but its prominence was considerably lessened before the Judges took their seats by the removal of those numbers. At ten o'clock Mr. Justice Blackburn and Mr. Justice Mellor took their seats.

The prosecution was conducted by the Attorney-General, Mr. Pickering Q.C.; Mr. Sowler, Q.C.; Mr. Hannen, and Mr. W. H. Higgin; Mr. Digby Seymour, Q.C., with Mr. Ernest Jones, appeared for three of the prisoners—Allen, Gould, and Shore; Mr. Sergeant O'Brien, with Mr. Cottingham, appeared for Michael Larkin and Thomas Maguire.

A slight delay occurred in the constitution of the grand jury; a train by which some of its members travelled having been, as was stated, detained for three quarters of an hour. No difficulty, however, was experienced in obtaining a sufficient number of grand jurors; and, as a mark of the entire confidence with which the State can and does appeal to all classes in repudiation of the principles of which Fenianism makes itself the exponent, it was noticed as significant that the foreman of the grand jury, and, consequently, the first to be sworn, was a Roman Catholic gentleman of property and influence. The names of those sworn upon the grand jury were as follows:—Sir Robert T. Gerard (foreman); the Hon. A. Egerton, M.P.; Mr. Henry Tootal Broadhurst; Mr. H. G. Bromilow; Sir William H. Fielden; Mr. J. Cheetham, M.P.; Mr. Gilbert Greenall, M.P.; Mr. R. N. Phillips, M.P.; Mr. J. T. Hibbert, M.P.; Mr. B. Whitworth, M.P.; Mr. J. Platt, M.P.; Mr. R. N. Norreys, Mr. Jonathan Peel, Mr. R. Pennington, Mr. R. M. Redhead, Mr. Clement M. Roys, Mr. C. H. Rickards, Mr. S. H. Thompson, Mr. R. M. Wilson, Mr. T. E. Withington, Mr. W. R. Wood, Mr. Nathan Worthington, and Mr. W. M. Sanderson.

After they had been sworn in, one of the many time-honoured absurdities of our English law was duly observed by the reading over of the Royal proclamation against vice, immorality, and profanity, solemnly calling on her Majesty's lieges to avoid the iniquity of playing at dice or cards on Sunday. When this formality had been executed, in the usual sing-song, Justice Blackburn delivered his charge to the grand jury in that simple and impressive manner which ought to be the type of judicial eloquence. He pointed out to the jurors that a murder had undoubtedly been committed; that the persons who had taken part in the attack on the van containing Kelly and Deasey had unquestionably been engaged in an unlawful act likely to endanger life, and that persons who so engaged were, according to our laws, guilty of the crime of murder which ensued from their unlawful actions, even supposing they did not fire the fatal shot themselves, or had no intention of using firearms.

The grand jury retired, and it was expected that their absence would be long, as it was understood the Crown would indict all the twenty-six prisoners in one batch, and in that case the *prima-facie* evidence against each one of them must have been considered separately. The names of the panel for the common jury were then called over, and, to judge from the number of excuses presented on the score of sickness, Manchester must be the most unhealthy abode in the United Kingdom. The pleas alleged for absence were as numerous as those which, according to the Gospel parable, were put forward for the non-compliance with the summons to the banquet, and, probably, were as little justified by facts. It is not surprising that men should shrink from a thankless and possibly perilous duty; but it is odd they should deem the mere allegation of a friend that they were out of health would be sufficient to excuse them from its fulfilment. While the excuses were being heard the Bar came in; and Mr. Digby Seymour, who at the eleventh hour had been instructed to defend some of the prisoners, applied at once for a postponement of the trial to the next day, in order that he might have time to consult with his colleagues. The request was not accorded by Justice Blackburn, on the ground that till the grand jury had brought in a bill there were no proceedings which could be stayed; but he intimated that when once this had been done the application would not be refused.

At five minutes to twelve the grand jury returned into court, and it was then discovered that the Crown had resolved to indict only five of the prisoners for the murder of Sergeant Brett; the others being indicted for the murderous assault on the police in order to rescue Kelly and Deasey, but not directly for the capital offence of murder. Upon this charge the grand jury had speedily found a true bill against the five prisoners, and, by the order of the Judge, they were forthwith brought into court. One by one they entered the dock through the trap-doors, and took their places in the order in which their names stood upon the list. The pen is in the shape of a Greek cross, and in the sort of balcony formed by the end of the cross facing the Bench the prisoners took their stand in the following order:—William O'Meara Allen, Michael Larkin, William Gould, Michael McGuire, and Colonel Shore, the last two standing behind the other three.

The first sensation which must have struck anyone on looking at them was one of surprise—that men so diminutive, and apparently of such feeble strength, could have accomplished an act which, however nefarious, required such courage and resolution as the rescue of Kelly and Deasey. Of the whole party, Shore, who is said to be imperfectly educated, looked most like the leader of a desperate enterprise. Short, but with broad massive shoulders, fair hair, close cropped moustache, and a ruddy complexion, he carried the traces of a life that, whether from choice or fate, had been a hard one. He looked like a man who might play a desperate game, counting the risk beforehand. McGuire was the best dressed and the least attractive in appearance of the party. He might have been a merchant's clerk from his aspect; and certainly his whole aspect, in dress and air, was not that of a common workman; however, the prison authorities say he is not a man of education. Gould was by far the most presentable in appearance of the company. Unless his face belied him, he is not a man of energy or resolution; but he looked kindly and good-natured—the sort of man who, according to common parlance, is likely to be nobody's enemy but his own. Larkin is a small, undersized man, with straight black hair, billygoat tuft upon his chin, high cheekbones, sunken eyes, sallow complexion; in short, he is the counterpart of anyone of the hundreds of Americanised Irishmen you will see issuing from any factory in New England when the day's work is done. But the man who least corresponds to the popular impression of what a desperado ought to be like is Allen, who is held to have been the ringleader of the rescue. The police reports say that he is nineteen. To judge by his face, you would put him down some three years younger. With fair, ruddy, unwrinkled face—with brown curling hair—without the symptom of beard, moustache, or whiskers—with half-open mouth, childish rather than weak, he is very much like the pictures you see in old illustrated Bibles of the stripling David when he went out to fight Goliath. He carried a great copybook with him, which was supposed to contain his defence, and seemed more nervous in manner than his companions.

One and all they pleaded "Not guilty" to the charge; and when Mr. Digby Seymour again got up to plead for an adjournment, the application was granted by the Attorney-General, and the Court was adjourned soon after mid-day till nine next morning.

On the reassembling of the Court on Tuesday morning, Mr. Digby Seymour applied under the statute for the removal of the trial by writ of certiorari to the Central Criminal Court. He read an affidavit to the effect that the prisoners could not have a fair trial at Manchester, from the state of public feeling. The application was refused.

Mr. Roberts, the attorney for the defence, having persisted, notwithstanding a caution from the Court, in interrupting the proceedings, was ordered by Mr. Justice Blackburn into custody. Eventually, on the intercession of Mr. Digby Seymour, he was allowed to remain, on condition that he behaved himself properly. The trial was then proceeded with.

The case for the prosecution closed on Thursday morning. Mr. Digby Seymour took the objection that, Kelly and Deasey being detained under a warrant irregularly made out for felony, and there-

fore illegal, anything they did to escape detention must be excused and such excuse extended to friends aiding them.

The grand jury have returned true bills against all the remaining prisoners for murder.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER IN EDINBURGH.

A PUBLIC banquet to the Chancellor of the Exchequer took place on Tuesday evening in the Corn Exchange, in the Grass-market, Edinburgh. The right hon. gentleman, accompanied by Mrs. Disraeli, arrived in Scotland last Saturday, and has since remained the guest of Mr. Dundas, of Arncliffe. From 1300 to 1400 gentlemen sat down to dinner.

Sir W. Stirling Maxwell, M.P. for Perth, presided, and there were present the Duke of Buccleuch, the Duke of Montrose, the Right Hon. C. V. Hamilton; Mr. Cumming Bruce, M.P.; the Earl of Strathmore, Lord Garies, Sir James Campbell, Mr. Dundas of Arncliffe, the Marquis of Bristol, the Earl of Hopetoun; Lord John Manners, M.P.; Lord Elphinstone, the Lord Advocate, Sir P. K. Murray, General Campbell; Mr. Baillie Cochrane, M.P.; the Rev. Dr. Grant; Sir J. Hay, M.P.; Colonel Kinloch; Sir Graham Montgomery, M.P., &c.

The side galleries were occupied by ladies, among them being Mrs. Disraeli and a select party from Arncliffe House, whose entrance into the hall shortly before the cloth was removed was greeted by the most warm and enthusiastic cheering.

The customary loyal and patriotic toasts having been given, the chairman proposed the toast of the evening—"The health of Mr. Disraeli, her Majesty's Chancellor of the Exchequer." The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm.

Mr. Disraeli, when the cheering with which he was received had subsided, began his address with expressing his gratification at receiving such a greeting from so exalted an assembly. He then alluded almost immediately to the late speech of Mr. Moncrieff, one of the members for Edinburgh, and proceeded to challenge its various statements. It had ever been the great Tory leaders who had served the cause of Parliamentary reform. This the right hon. gentleman attempted to sustain by references to Mr. Pitt, Mr. Canning, and the late Duke of Richmond. The Tory party had a right to deal with the question, not only on historical but on abstract political grounds. He then entered upon a narrative of what he termed the facts of the case, from 1852 to the end of 1866, representing the Conservative party as having been, throughout that period, anxious to witness a settlement of the question, which, however, the incapacity of the Liberals rendered impracticable. The Conservatives had ever felt the mistake which had been made in the act of 1832 of omitting the labouring classes from the franchise. He himself had had to prepare the mind of the country for this bill and to educate his own party to it. For seven weary and toilsome years he had endeavoured to impress upon the conscience and conviction of Parliament five leading points, which were subsequently included in their comprehensive measure of enfranchisement. They had not, however, established, as some had said, household suffrage; for only a million and a half of householders out of four millions, it was estimated, would obtain the franchise. Were they to be frightened at an increase of half a million, and to believe that it was equivalent to the establishment of democratic government? They had a policy of their own, and from that policy they had never deviated; and the getting rid of the compound householder was the very triumph of their own principle. Referring to the political criticisms in the current numbers of the *Edinburgh* and *Quarterly*, Mr. Disraeli continued:—"He who has written the summary of the Session in the *Edinburgh* is not mounted on the fiery barb of Francis Jeffery; he is rather placed upon a hearse-horse, with which he consummates the entombment of Whig principles. The Conservative surrender, to borrow expression from the pleasing volume of art of my friend the chairman, is what one would call a *replica*. You find the subject treated in speeches, in articles, in reviews, and sometimes in manifestoes. The colouring is not without charm; but the drawing is inaccurate, the perspective is false, the subject is monstrous. Far be it from me to discover a man from his style, for it is thus commemorative for ever of the character that knows you under these circumstances. If, therefore, I make an observation on the 'Conservative surrender,' it is founded entirely upon abstract principles. I should say that article was written by a very clever man who has made a very great mistake. The leaders of the Conservative party are traitors. The Conservative party are false. They do not know that they have been abused. They have not recognised that their confidence has been betrayed and outraged. I see many gentlemen here who have been, I have no doubt, inspectors, like myself, as magistrates of peculiar asylums, who meet there some cases which I have always thought at the same time the most absurd and the most distressing; it is when the lunatic believes all the world is mad, and that he himself is sane. But, to pass from such gloomy imagery, really, these *Edinburgh* and *Quarterly Reviews*, although no man admires them more than myself—I admire them as I do first-class, first-rate post-horses, which in old days, for half a century or so, to use a Manchester phrase, carried on a "roaring trade;" soon there comes some revolutions or progress which no person ever contemplated. They find things so altered that they do not understand them; and instead of that intense competition and mutual vindictiveness which before distinguished them, they suddenly quite agree. The boots of the Blue Boar and the chambermaid of the Red Lion embrace, and they are quite in accord in this—in denouncing the infamy of railroads. Mr. Disraeli then went on to speak of the Scotch Reform Bill, contending that the representation of Scotland could not be increased unless the number of representatives in the House of Commons was increased also. The Government intended in February to propose a considerable increase in the number of Scotch members, to be obtained in the manner he had referred to, and they would stand by that proposition if the Scotch members supported them. There was no cabalistic charm in the number 658. Addressing himself to the question of education, the right hon. gentleman said its advantage to a nation was signally proved by the country of which he was then the guest. Although inclined himself to attribute much to organisation and race, he was bound to say he had never met a Scotchman yet, even if he were the confidential adviser of a pacha, who did not tell him he owed his rise to his parish school. The report of the Scotch commission had been considered by the Government, and he hoped that in this Session they should bring forward a measure upon national education, and that it would pass the Legislature. He would say he did not believe that any form of education, founded upon a compulsory principle, and of necessary adoption in every part of the country, could be successful. He was not prepared to admit that the British nation generally is an uneducated nation; the influence on the free press in this country is never fully considered. This press, continued Mr. Disraeli, conducted by whatever party, is, on the whole, conducted with great energy, with great intelligence, and with high moral feeling, and it, perhaps, imparts a secular education to the people of this country which none of the boasted climes that have been held up as models we cannot rival, can, for a moment, compete with. I do not care what may be the opinions or feelings of those who conduct the press of this country. It is immaterial whether they are animated by a high moral feeling or motive; but this is quite clear, they cannot successfully direct their labours to any great class in this country unless they give that class credit for that high moral feeling; and therefore, without indulging in any cant upon the subject, I say the condition of our press—which for energy, general intelligence, information, and moral feeling cannot be excelled—is a sign of the sound condition of the country and of the progress of secular education highly profitable which is at present going on. I can't deny that the great measure which has been passed this year will give in some degree a new character to our Constitution and introduce some new powers and influences into its action; and, indeed, to accomplish such ends was the object of those who brought it forward. I hear every day that, in consequence of the changes that have been effected, we must expect great questions

to arise. Well, no doubt great questions will arise, and I should be sorry that great questions should not arise. Great questions are a proof that the country is progressing. If there were no great question it would only show that we were in a stagnant state; but we ought to contrast the present state of affairs, when the Reform Bill of 1832 has been passed, with what was the state which will be remembered by my noble friend the Duke of Buccleuch. What a different feeling there was in the country at that time no one can believe that the wise and experienced men of those days were afraid of the Reform Bill. It was not the Reform Bill that was brought forward by Lord Grey and the eminent statesmen who produced that alarm. It was the way in which that Reform Bill was passed; it was the bludgeon and the brickbat; it was Nottingham Castle in flames; it was cities like Bristol that were sacked; but contrast that state of affairs, and the consequence of that state of affairs, with what was our experience. We have had a riot, a little riot, just to show that we are freemen. We have had, as we had in 1832, violent opinions expressed; but in 1832 they were expressed by men of mark, by men who influenced opinion; by whom are they expressed now? By the nincompoops of politics. By men more absurd than Hudibras. If you consider the different position of the country at these two periods, it is very remarkable you passed a Reform Bill then, and everybody was frightened; they were so frightened that they collected together, and believed that the only security against further danger was the associating together to prevent further change. Now we all feel what an error was that. It is as fallacious a triumph in politics as in science to suppose that you can establish a party upon resistance to change; and for this reason the change is inevitable in a progressive country. Change is constant; and the great question is, not whether you still resist change, which is inevitable, but whether that change shall be carried out in deference to the manners, the customs, the laws, and the traditions of a people, or whether it shall be carried out in deference to abstract principle and arbitrary and general doctrines. One is a national system; the other, to give it the worst epithet which it may deserve, is a philosophic system; but, although they both have very great advantages, this must be remembered—the national system is supported no doubt with the fervour of patriotism. The philosophic has a singular exemption from the force of prejudice; but the national system, although it may occasionally represent the prejudices of a nation, never injures the national character, while the philosophic system, although it may occasionally improve by its advanced views the condition of a country, precipitates progress, and may occasion revolution and destroy States. Now I have always considered that the Tory party was the national party of England; it is not the freedom of a combination of oligarchs and philosophers who practise upon the sectarian prejudices of a portion of the people; it is the freedom of all classes from the humblest to the most homely, and it retains a series of institutions that are inherent and ought to be in practice, the embodiment of the national requirement and the security of the national rights. Whenever the Tory party degenerates in to oligarchy, it becomes unpopular; whenever the national institutions do not fulfil their original intention the Tory party becomes odious; but when the people are led by their natural leaders, and when by their united influence the national institutions fulfil their original intentions, then the Tory party is triumphant, and then, under Providence, it will secure the prosperity and happiness of the country. Events may now be occurring which may influence the condition of Europe and affect the position of this country. For my own part, I should not be doing my duty if I did not express my conviction that it is not only the interest but the intention of the great Powers of Europe not only to favour, but to favour permanently, the cause of peace. But, no doubt, whatever Ministry may have to regulate the fortunes of this country, whatever may be their abilities, whatever may be the favourable circumstances they can command, they are noting without the confidence of the great mass of the nation, and without the encouragement which assemblies like these must give to all. For myself, I assure you, encouraged as I have been to-day by the cordial kindness with which you have greeted me, I am the last man who would attempt to depreciate the difficulties which a British Minister has to meet, or would attempt to exaggerate the qualities which my colleagues possess. Indeed, when I remember the interests of the British Isles, so vast, so various, and so complicated; when I ever recall to recollection the differences of race, which, however blended, leave a very significant characteristic; when I recollect that the great majority of the population of the United Kingdom rise every day and depend for their daily sustenance on their daily labour; when I recollect the delicate marble of our credit, more wonderful, in my opinion, than all our accumulated capital; when I remember that it is on the common-sense, the prudence, and the courage of a community thus circumstanced that depends the fate of uncounted millions in ancient provinces, and that around the globe there is a circle of domestic settlements that watch us for example and inspiration; when I know that not a sun rises on a British Minister that does not bring him care and even inexpressible anxiety—an unexpected war, a disturbed and discontented colony, a pestilence, a famine, a mutiny, a declining trade, a decaying revenue, a collapse of credit, perhaps some insane and fantastic conspiracy—I declare I feel very often I wonder where there is the strength of heart to deal with such that in this country, whatever may have been the tumult and the turmoil of our row almost countless generation, there have been three master influences that have at all times controlled and commanded our powers and passions—and they are industry, liberty, and religion. So long as this sacred combination influences the destiny of this country it will not die. History will recognise its life, not record its decline and fall. It will say this is a great and colossal circumstance. But when I withdraw the pressure of individual interest and take a larger and deeper view of human affairs, I recognise understanding people, and it is from such materials we make the magnificence of the nation and establish the splendour of the terrestrial globe.

At eleven o'clock the right hon. gentleman concluded, amid enthusiastic cheering, a speech which occupied upwards of two and a half hours in delivery.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer had a busy day in Edinburgh on Wednesday. At two o'clock in the afternoon he was presented with the freedom of the city, in the Music-hall. The Lord Provost was careful to say that the honour was conferred upon Mr. Disraeli as an eminent statesman and a man of letters, and that it had in no respect a political signification. Mr. Disraeli accepted the situation, and scarcely touched upon politics. He, however, promised that the Government would take in hand the question of education in Scotland. Leaving the Music-hall, the Chancellor of the Exchequer went to the hall of the library of the University of Edinburgh, where the degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him and Mr. Lowe, M.P., at the same time. The proceedings were singularly uninteresting. Both Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Lowe made speeches of the most commonplace order. It is not difficult, however, to imagine that Mr. Lowe, with Mr. Disraeli's after-dinner speech of the previous night before him, was sorely tempted to make a few observations upon it which would not be commonplace. In the evening Mr. Disraeli was presented with a complimentary address by the so-called working men of Edinburgh.

A MAD DOG.—An exciting and distressing scene was witnessed in Lambeth last Saturday morning. A large retriever dog, maddened by hydrophobia, caused terror as he rushed along Palace road, and entered the door of No. 2, which was open. Seizing upon a woman named Elizabeth Hawks, the animal bit a piece of flesh from her leg. She fell down stairs, and the dog again bit her on the arm, severing the arteries and inflicting a terrible wound. Seizing a horse, the infuriated dog ran down the road followed by a shouting crowd, and when in Crozier street, Stargate, he knocked a boy down and severely bit him. At length the animal, running up some doorsteps, was unable to get further. A boy named Knowlson, recognising the dog, went up to him and tried to catch hold of a rope round its neck. The dog knocked him down and bit him savagely on the throat and left side of the face, inflicting dreadful wounds also on the arm and leg. The crowd coming up, a man courageously secured the dog by the rope, and it was taken to the police station. The wounds of the several persons bitten soon became swollen, and the sufferers were taken to the hospital.

Literature.

Original Poems, Illustrated. London and New York: Routledge and Sons.

This is a very pretty book, beautifully illustrated, splendidly printed, and handsomely bound; but, so far as the "poems" are concerned, we see no particular reason why they should have been published in this pretentious shape. They appear to be our old friends, "Original Poems for Infant Minds," though the second portion of the title in this edition dropped. No doubt, it is true that they have passed through many scores of editions since the Misses Taylor wrote them (we forget how far back in the century), the last of which was issued by Messrs. Virtue in 1806. The little book has thus a certain prestige, and we may be over fastidious, but really we have been unable to discover anything original in the ideas these poems develop or the lessons they are intended to teach. All the pieces inculcate the doctrine that it is very good to be good, and very naughty to be naughty. Excellent teaching; but when the notion is repeated and reiterated through nearly 200 pages, we have altogether too much of a good thing; and we fear youngsters will be apt to become naughty over the book ere they get half through it, if they ever read so far. Considering the excellence of the illustrations and the well, mediocrity—of the poems, we suppose the work is designed to be looked at, not read; and as a "show" book, will very nicely occupy a corner of the drawing-room table at children's parties. It is, perhaps, unfair to judge too critically poems designed "for that interesting little race, the race of children," considering that, to quote a line from the book, these pieces are "so innocent, harmless, and mild." It is difficult, however, to understand why originality should be claimed for this, addressed to a butterfly:—

Poor harmless insect, flither fly,
And life's short hour enjoy;
'Tis all thou hast, and why should I
That little all destroy?

or to refrain from smiling at the anti-climax of this, to "The Tempest":—

'Tis God, who on the tempest rides,
And with a word directs the storm;
'Tis at His nod the winds subside,
Or heaps of heavy vapours form:
In fire and cloud He walks the sky,
And lets his stores of tempest fly.

Yet though beneath His power divine
My life depends upon His care,
Each right endeavour shall be mine;
Of every danger I'll beware;
For, from the midst of hell-fire stant,
Not on the door-lock keep my hand.

Let us suppose to be supposed to pick out faulty passages, we will give one piece entire, with this remark—that it is, if anything, rather a favourable specimen of these "Original Poems":—

THE EARTH.

What is it that's covered so richly with green,
And gives to the forest its birth?
A thousand plants bloom on its bosom serene:
Whose bosom?—the bosom of earth.

Hidden deep in its bowels the emerald shines,
The ruby and amethyst blue;
And silver and gold glitter bright in the mines
Of Mexico rich, and Peru.

Large quarries of granite and marble are spread
In its wonderful bosom, like bones;
Chalk, gravel, and coals; salt, sulphur, and lead;
And thousands of beautiful stones.

Bonets, savage and tame, of all colours and forms,
Either stalk in its deserts, or creep;
White bears sit and growl to the northerly storms,
And shaggy goats bound from the steep.

The oak and the snowdrop, the cedar and rose,
Alike on its surface are seen;
The tall fir of Norway, surrounded with snows,
And the mountain ash, scarlet and green.

Fine grass and rich mosses creep over its hills,
Flowers breathe their perfume to the gale;
Tall water-weeds dip in its murmuring rills,
And harvests wave bright in the vale.

And when this poor body is cold and decay'd,
And this warm, throbbing heart is at rest;
My head upon thee, mother Earth, shall be laid,
To find a long home in thy breast.

Remoter Stars in the Church Sky. Being a Gallery of Uncelebrated Divines. By GEORGE GILLILLAN, Author of "The Baris of the Bible," &c. London: Jackson, Walford, and Hodder.

Most readers, we should imagine, must be acquainted with the name at least, if not with the writings, of the Rev. George Gillillan; at all events, most postmen are so, if a story be true which we have heard related. It is said that a letter was once posted in America, addressed to "George Gillillan, somewhere in this wide world," and that it found the rev. gentleman in Dundee. Whether this tale be literally true or not, Mr. Gillillan is now a tolerably celebrated divine and author. He first became known by his "Gallery of Literary Portraits," the overly-ornate and somewhat pompous style of which brought upon the author some ridicule as well as fame. In the present work we find Mr. Gillillan's exuberance of language and high-pitched strain sobered down and subdued, while there is still enough warmth of colouring left to remind us of the author's early characteristics. Among the divines here portrayed—including Dr. William Anderson, of Glasgow, whose local admirers, we suspect, will be inclined to object to the epithet "uncelebrated" as applied to him—are City ministers noted for their pulpit oratory; country pastors remarkable for the assiduity with which they discharged their duties in contented obscurity; a few denominational leaders; and some men whose lives were specially valuable for the influence their writings and unobtrusive teaching had upon the minds of others. The volume is altogether a very pleasing one, and teaches the valuable lesson that ministers, and laymen too, may do good work in the world, and yet be quite uncelebrated.

The Champagne Country. By ROBERT TOMES. London and New York: Routledge and Sons.

To whom will not this volume commend itself? It may safely be said, to all who have ever tasted or heard of the wine known as champagne, including even those who say "they would not give twopenny a dozen for it," and the more trustworthy people who simply say that "they prefer Moselle." Mr. Tomes, an American gentleman, complains that visitors to Paris seldom make the four hours' excursion to Rheims (pronounced *Rans*, he says) on the road from Paris to Strasbourg. His own countrymen especially, though swarming over the world, never think of leaving delightful and luxurious Paris for the head-quarters of champagne; and, indeed, during Mr. Tomes's two years' stay in Rheims, only twelve of his countrymen paid the place a visit. Now, besides the champagne interest, which is modern, Rheims has an ancient and medieval interest which might be supposed to tempt people to become pilgrims. In addition, it has great attractions, amongst which the celebrated cathedral may be mentioned as a powerful instance. Mr. Tomes's special chapter on the subject will interest many readers, and perhaps reward them for occasional statistics, which, like the wine to which they refer, may sometimes be dry. But the book is anecdotal throughout, and will be found anything but dull. The rise and progress of the Veuve Clicquot family, and their immense business, is full of interest and amusement. The "dodges" practised to get the wine in circulation—at any losing cost—and the attempts of other Clicquots to force themselves into the trade, are curious pictures of commercial cunning. That of the Louis Roederer and Co. is, if possible, more so; and that house has actually got a rival, Theophile Roederer and Co.; and the reader is strongly recommended to stick to the original firm. People will be astonished to hear that the great business is now with the Roederer, and that the great Clicquot is decidedly going down. Even the Russians are becoming tired of the brandy and sugar which distinguish the widow's concoction, as it may be called. It is amusing to know that, in the champagne country, everybody who can afford it is an

habitual toper; and, to judge from these capital pages, people may wonder how Mr. Tomes plucked up sufficient courage to tear himself away.

A Book on Angling: being a Complete Treatise on the Art of Angling in Every Branch. With Explanatory Plates, &c. By FRANCIS FRANCIS, of the Field, Author of "Fish Culture," &c. Second Edition. London: Longmans and Co.

No wonder that a second edition of so comprehensive a book should be wanted at an early period. It may be described as a labour of life and love, the material for it having taken many years to collect, and been collected with all the enthusiasm of an accomplished sportsman. Every one of our rivers and their fishes, and every description of tackle and fly, receive attention at great length; and, of course, the reader has every particle of Mr. Francis's extended experience. Opportunity has been taken to revise, improve, and enlarge; which latter, indeed, may strike the angler as a superfluous attention. As it is the largest book on the subject, is strictly confined to business, and has none of that tiresome raving about the beauties of Nature usually indulged in by writers on angling, it may with certainty be pronounced the best book of its kind. Many of the illustrations—some of them coloured—will be found very useful.

A Handy-book to the Collection and Preparation of Freshwater and Marine Algae, Diatoms, Disinfects, Fungi, Lichens, Mosses, and Other of the Lower Cryptogamia. With Instructions for the formation of an Herbarium. By JOHANN NAVE. Translated and Edited by the Rev. W. W. Spicer, M.A., Fellow of the Royal Microscopical Society. London: Robert Hardwicke.

Breathless with the length of this title to a little foolscap volume of 200 pages, it seems needless for us to attempt any further description for our readers. Any remarks here would be useless to the unscientific reader, and surely the scientific would have a chance of turning the tables and teaching us a little of the large subject. When we say, therefore, that the book is an excellent specimen of Mr. Hardwicke's invariable excellence in paper and print, and that it has countless full-page woodcuts, enough has been said to give it a great chance with those who desire a "Handy-book to the Collection," &c., &c.

The Class and the Desk: a Manual for Sunday-school Teachers. New Testament Series. By JAMES COMPER GRAY, Halifax. London: Sangster and Co.

We must frankly confess that our experience of Sunday-schools and Sunday-school teachers is of somewhat remote date; and therefore we may not be very well qualified to pronounce on the merits of this book. We have a rather strong impression on our memory, however, that the young men and maidens who undertook tuition in Sunday-schools when we made acquaintance with them could not have been over-competent for their work, considering the recollections we retain of their teachings; and we presume the like characteristics distinguish the Sabbath-school teachers of the present. At least, the author of "The Class and the Desk" hints as much, and we presume that he knows. In these circumstances, we are inclined to think that Mr. Gray's work, which has evidently been prepared with much care and an earnest desire to be useful, will be of material service to the class of persons to whom it is addressed. That class is undoubtedly animated by a sincere wish to benefit their fellow-creatures; their defects do not lie in the direction of intention, but of qualification; and in this little manual they will find valuable helps indeed. There is only one thing we desire to protest against in connection with it, and that is, the hope the author expresses that "heads of families may find it a pleasant exercise to use the lessons amongst their children." We trust they will make no such attempt; for the children must generally have enough of that sort of thing in church and at school, and should be left in peace at home.

The Civil Service Geography. By the late LANCELOT M. DALRYMPLE SCIENCE (H.M. Civil Service), revised throughout by THOMAS GRAY, one of the Assistant Secretaries of the Board of Trade. London: Lockwood and Co.

This neat little book is described on the titlepage as a "manual of geography, general and political, arranged especially for examination candidates and the higher forms of schools," and is sure to be exceedingly useful. A knowledge of geography, though exceedingly necessary to civil servants, is not always possessed by aspirants for employment in our public offices. In these days of competitive examinations, candidates will find it indispensable that they should be well "posted up" in such matters as geography, or they may be "plucked" on small points, and that as effectually as was one gentleman we have heard of, who, though generally well-informed, was, to his great surprise and disgust, "put back" ignominiously, because he could not satisfactorily explain what a "water-shed" is. That was a question in physical geography, to be sure, and may have been deemed too much in the way of new and "high science" to be worthy the attention of "crammers"; but in general and political geography all candidates for examination should be well versed; and this is precisely the book to make them so—in a moderate way. It has been very carefully compiled from the best available sources of information, both the author and the editor having done their work in a most painstaking and conscientious way. We are sure it will be a valuable help to examination candidates, senior pupils in schools, and to others besides; and we heartily recommend it.

Hobson's Choice. A Story. By DUTTON COOK. New Edition. London: Sampson Low and Co.

This is a new two-shilling edition of a very pleasant and agreeable fiction, by Mr. Dutton Cook. We have already recommended it to the lovers of simple stories. It is less ambitious than Mr. Cook's more elaborate novels, and, perhaps, more successful; as a plain, unexciting story it is excellent. The Brighton pictures are lifelike, and the characters faithful to some specimens of human nature, at once harmless and humorously eccentric. A second edition gratifies the good wishes expressed some months since.

FOREIGN SIGNBOARDS.—We must go abroad if we wish to see the old sign in its glory. Countries that have not moved forward as fast as we have keep to their old customs. Even in Paris many trades and professions still make their whereabouts known by signs. Who has not been amused by the midwives' signs in that city, which represent the nurse in the lying-in-chamber taking, with a triumphant air, the new-born babe to the equally triumphant-looking father? In Holland there is a perfect harvest of quaint signs still remaining; but for the truly picturesque signs we must go to the Tyrol. The hostels there are invariably decorated with some picture of a saint; but the favourite sign is generally a gigantic St. Christopher, painted, or rather frescoed, on the wall. After a long ride in this mountainous country, there is something charmingly pleasant in coming suddenly upon a solitary inn, and seeing the saint, perhaps 30 ft. high, bearing the infant Christ upon his shoulder while he is fording a river. St. Christopher is the patron saint of the poor man, hence the reason for his picture as a sign. St. George slaying the dragon is another common sign in that country, and often, in addition to these signs, there will be pictures of the Virgin, or of Christ bearing his cross. The innkeeper in these valleys is by no means such a coarse specimen of humanity as we often meet with in country places in England; he evidently is a lover of art, for we often see in the most remote villages excellent copies of well-known pictures by the old masters, which they have adopted as their signs. In Styria signs are used for a purpose which is anything but assuring to the nervous traveller. Journeying along one of the steep defiles in this country a few years ago, with a very timid lady, our attention was drawn to a custom they have in this superstitious country of marking the site of every accident by flood or mountain path with a picture depicting the nature of the casualty. Here, where the road overhangs the river, a lady will be seen precipitated into the flood; at the next sharp turn a carriage will be seen overturned, with gashed travellers writhing beneath; or an astounding avalanche will be shown swallowing up the caravan and all its passengers. Near the picture will generally be seen a box, in which you are requested to place a contribution in order that the priests may say a mass for the repose of their souls. We suppose that the priests are the artists of these gentle reminders of our mortality, and use them as advertisements to draw alms.—*Once a Week.*



THE NEW VICTOR EMMANUEL GALLERY AT MILAN.

THE NEW GALLERY INAUGURATED BY VICTOR EMMANUEL AT MILAN.

THE latest public occasion on which Victor Emmanuel appeared before the disturbances resulting from the arrest of Garibaldi was that of the opening of a new gallery at Milan—a work worthy even of that city, so celebrated for beautiful examples of architecture. The new building, which bears the Royal name, has been the subject of laudation in the Italian journals, which declare it to be unrivalled; and our Engraving will convey an accurate idea of its style and general proportions.

Il Pungolo gives some details of the building, which we extract for the benefit of our readers:—"The gallery, which is in the form of a Latin cross, is 195 metres in length, and about 15 metres wide. At the point of intersection is a cupola, 50 metres in height. The glass which covers the roof and openings consists of 92,000 panes of ordinary metal and 3000 slabs of crystal, furnished from the manufactory of Saint-Gobain. Superb shops—which in London would be called 'emporiums,' and in Paris 'magasins' occupy each side, where are exhibited all the luxury of ornamentation, as well as the splendid merchandise, suitable for a building of such distinction. The mosaics, which are the subject of general admiration, come from Venice and from a workshop in Milan itself. This gallery is said to be the chef-d'œuvre of Signor Mangani, and it is worthy to represent that high appreciation of art which is not lost in Italy, and will bear comparison with many examples of the ancient school. At the end of the gallery we come upon La Scala, where many statues have been erected; and this new building is but the beginning of a series of similar galleries intended to occupy the present site of the old and sordid construction which now disfigures what should be one of the most magnificent squares in Europe."

REMINISCENCES OF THE POET GOLDSMITH.

MANY of our readers may not, perhaps, be aware that the house where the poet Oliver Goldsmith went to school, at Elphin, in Ireland, is still in existence, in a good state of preservation; and this week we have much pleasure in presenting an Engraving of it as it now appears, together with another Illustration of a scene interesting from its connection with the early life of the author of "The Deserted Village."

The diocesan school of Elphin, which Oliver Goldsmith attended for some years while staying with his uncle, Mr. John Goldsmith, at Ballyoughter, in the vicinity, is an old-fashioned double house, built probably in the very early part of the last century. The school-room is situated in the back part of the house, and it was here, in all likelihood, that the foundation of the lines descriptive of the village school, commencing "Well had the boding tremblers learned to trace the day's disasters in his morning face," was first laid in the poet's mind—lines finely illustrated, by Webster in his pictures of "The Smile" and "The Frown."

Like that of Homer, more than one place claims the honour of being the birthplace of Goldsmith; and Elphin, in the county of Roscommon, is one of these. A few years ago the see was amalgamated with that of Kilmore, and now the cathedral mourns for its Bishop, while "The Palace" is occupied by a large landed proprietor in the neighbourhood. In the year 1700 the Rev. Edward Goldsmith, a relative of the poet, was Dean of Elphin. The town itself, picturesquely situated on a hill round which there is a magnificent view, is an unpretending place enough, unconscious as yet of such modern improvements as gas or a railway station; and probably its long, straggling, only street presents the same appearance to-day as it did when young Oliver trudged along it "unwillingly to school."

At Ballyoughter (pronounced Bally-u-ter), now the residence of John Goldsmith, Esq., lived the poet's uncle, also a John Goldsmith. It is a pretty place, standing in its own grounds of about one hundred acres, and pleasantly situated in a valley a mile distant from Elphin. The poet's uncle was great-great-grandfather to the present proprietor. Here generations of Goldsmiths have lived and died. Here once came a stripling, just convalescent from smallpox, to gain strength in the famed purity of the air; a plain boy, indeed, but destined in after years to be a shining light in English literature, and never to be forgotten while our language endures. That youth was Oliver Goldsmith.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN ABYSSINIA.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR ROBERT NAPIER, Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Army, who has been nominated to the command of the

Abyssinian expedition, with full civil powers, belongs to the old corps of Bengal Engineers, a regiment which has occupied a distinguished place in the Indian services, but the identity of which has now become merged by its amalgamation with the Royal Engineers. He entered the service in 1827. For the first eighteen years from that time he was employed in the Public Works Department, and first came prominently into notice in 1842, when, on the large frontier station of Kurnool, on the borders of the Punjab, being abandoned on account of its extreme unhealthiness, he was



GOLDSMITH'S SCHOOL AT ELPHIN, IRELAND.

selected to lay out the new station of Umballah, and to design and construct the extensive military buildings required for the garrison. Up to this time Indian barracks had been wretchedly insufficient in size, ventilation, and convenience; but Captain Napier took the opportunity thus offered by the creation of an entirely new cantonment, the details of which were left wholly to his own discretion, to discard the conventional idea then held about barrack-building. For the first time since our occupation of India the British soldier was properly housed in the spacious buildings erected by Captain Napier at Umballah. The "Napier barrack" was, indeed, in its day considered one of the wonders of the time; and, although the advance of sanitary science has since led to further improvements being suggested in them, the Umballah barracks still stand as a proof of the enlightened intelligence of their designer, and the care and sympathy he has always shown for the European soldier.

On the sudden breaking out of the Sikh War, in 1845, Captain Napier, obtaining leave of absence from his civil duties, was in time, by a sixty-mile ride, to be present at the battle of Moodkee, where his horse was killed. A second horse was killed under him at the succeeding battle of Ferozeshah. He was also actively employed, on the staff, at the battle of Sohraon. On the subsequent occupation of Lahore by the British army, Lord Hardinge selected Major Napier for the duty of constructing temporary barracks for the large European garrison quartered in that city—an arduous duty, admirably performed. While thus employed, he was sent, on the outbreak of the insurrection at Mooltan, in 1848, as chief engineer

of the force which marched from Lahore, under General Whish, to recover that place, and served throughout the campaign in that capacity, and afterwards, when the force was augmented, as second in command. He was severely wounded on this occasion.

On the annexation of the Punjab, in 1849, Lord Dalhousie selected Major Napier for the post of Chief Civil Engineer in that country; and from this time dates the introduction of anything deserving the name of public works in India, with the sole exception of the Ganges Canal, which had been commenced a short time before.

The Punjab was Lord Dalhousie's favourite province; Sir Henry Lawrence was at the head of the local Government; with their encouragement a new ideal of progress was developed. In eight years Napier and his staff had placed that country in advance of all our old acquisitions in India, and it may be said, without exaggeration, that the development since given to roads and other public works in India is due in a great measure to the extraordinary energy displayed on this occasion. The Indian official mind, under the influence of the example thus set in one corner of the empire, then first shook off the *laissez-faire* maxims of earlier days, represented by the school of Lord Metcalfe and his contemporaries, and conceived the idea of that policy of progress now happily accepted as a necessary condition of good government in India. The merit of this great reform is due in a very large measure to Sir Robert Napier.

The outbreak of the mutiny, in 1857, found Colonel Napier in England on sick leave; but he immediately returned to India, and was at once appointed chief of the staff of the force which, under Outram, first relieved Lucknow. Recovering from a wound received on this occasion, he was then appointed Chief Engineer, with the rank of Brigadier, of Lord Clyde's army, and in that capacity presided over the engineer department during the highly successful operations which resulted in the capture of that place. Shortly afterwards he was sent, as Brigadier-General, to relieve Sir Hugh Rose, on that officer falling sick, in the command of the Central India Field Force, and after several dashing cavalry affairs with different bodies of rebels, among others that headed by the notorious Tantia Toppe, succeeded in pacifying that part of the country. His next active employment was in the command of one of the two infantry divisions composing the army which, in 1860, under Sir Hope Grant, captured the Taku forts and extorted peace from the Emperor of China under the walls of Peking. Returning to India in 1861, Sir Robert Napier was appointed member of the Governor-General's Council, and conducted the military department of the Government until 1865, when he was nominated to the less lucrative, but, perhaps, to a thorough soldier, the more congenial post of Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Army.

Although Sir Robert Napier has thus reached almost the top of his profession while yet in the full possession of his physical and mental qualities, perhaps no man in the Army has won his different grades more thoroughly. The Sutlej campaign gave him a brevet majority; his great services at Mooltan were recognised by another step of brevet rank, a reward given to every staff officer engaged in the campaign, whether distinguished or not. The mutiny found him a Brevet Colonel by seniority; and so, while other officers serving in the same campaign obtained a step of rank as well as the C.B., the chief of Outram's staff received only the latter. For his services at the capture of Lucknow, under Lord Clyde, Colonel Napier was knighted, but his subsequent command in Central India did not lead to any promotion. Yet some of the most brilliant cavalry affairs in the mutiny were the actions in Central India fought by Sir Robert Napier at the head of a handful of native cavalry and the 14th Light Dragoons, and they would, doubtless, have been brought more under notice if undertaken by a less modest or more pushing man. For his services in the China war of 1861 he was promoted to the rank of Major-General; which advancement, as he was at the time second senior Colonel in the Army, gave him exactly one step. Within the last few days Sir Robert Napier has been nominated a Knight Grand Cross of the Star of India.

Thus each step of promotion to his present place has been well and hardly won. The popularity with which Sir Robert Napier is regarded in the Army has steadily increased with his reputation. A splendid horseman—good horsemanship and great power of bodily endurance are valuable gifts in a General—he has won the hearts of the troops under his command by his love of justice and his kindly sympathy and consideration for the soldier, while every member who has ever been on his staff during active service will be ready to offer a tribute of affectionate admiration for his gallantry and skill. If wise selection of a fit General can ensure success the Abyssinian expedition will not be a failure.



BALLYOUGHTER, IRELAND, THE RESIDENCE OF JOHN GOLDSMITH, ESQ.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

MR. MAPLESON'S endeavour to establish a winter season at Her Majesty's Theatre seems likely to meet with adequate support. It is a curious superstition in England that fashionable people alone care for operatic music. As a rule, it may be said that rich people alone can afford to pay for the privilege of hearing operatic music; but the prices charged at Her Majesty's Theatre during the winter season—now just commenced—are moderate; and there are, it may be hoped, a sufficient number of amateurs in London, even during the winter months, to give the new enterprise a fair chance of success. On the opening night (Monday) the house was well filled; and "Lucresia Borgia," with Mdlle. Titiens, Mdlle. Trebelli-Bettini, Signor Bettini, and Signor Gassier in the principal parts, was admirably played. Mdlle. Titiens was applauded with enthusiasm at every opportunity. Mdlle. Trebelli-Bettini was encored in the drinking-song of the third act; and the trio of the second act (Mdlle. Titiens, Signor Mongini, and Signor Gassier) was also redemanded. Nor must we omit to state that Signor Bettini—known to be a singer of taste, not generally known to be a singer of power—produced a very favourable impression in the tenor part.

The operas announced to follow "Lucresia" are "Le Nozze di Figaro," "Il Barbiere," and "Il Trovatore." To-night (Saturday), "La Traviata" will be produced, with a vocalist of whom great things are expected—Mdlle. Clara Kellogg—in the character of Violetta.

Mr. Russell announces "The Grand Duchess" for performance at Covent Garden on the 16th inst. The said "Grand Duchess" is a free translation or adaptation of Offenbach's "Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein," the most successful of the many successful works produced by that curious *maestro*. It appears from the advertisement that, in being transferred from the French to the English stage, the "Grande Duchesse" will, somehow, become a "spectacular" piece. So much the better for those (including ourselves) who are fond of spectacles. We may be sure that the literary part of the work will be well done if, as we are told, it has been undertaken by Mr. Charles Kenney.

The "Grand Duchess" will, we suppose, be followed at Christmas time by the usual Christmas pantomime.

WRECKS.—Of late we have had to record few wrecks at sea, but at last the stormy season has set in with more than its usual severity. Last Saturday the weather was beautiful, but the glass was going down rapidly, and nightfall was accompanied with a heavy gale, which burst with fatal effect at Holyhead. The Earl of Chester, which had left Liverpool for Madras, was wrecked at Rhosneig, eleven miles from Holyhead, and all hands were lost. Two or three other vessels are said to have gone ashore in Carnarvon Bay; and we shall doubtless soon hear of more casualties. Nor is it difficult to indicate beforehand some at least of the points of disaster. At the mouth of the Tyne, for instance, a reef of rocks, year after year, proves the grave of fine ships. It might be blasted if the local authorities had sufficient enterprise or money; but it remains untouched; and, regularly with the coming of the easterly gales in winter, the price of the neglect is seen in the wrecks that strew the shore. In other places the authorities are equally neglectful; and the result is that mourning is yearly brought to hundreds of homes. Few subjects more urgently call for the attention of Parliament. The dangers might, to a great extent, be removed by means of a sufficient grant for the construction of harbours of refuge, and for the destruction of dangerous reefs.

THE IRISH CHURCH.—A great Protestant demonstration with reference to the Irish Church took place, on Wednesday, at Hillsborough—the Marquis of Downshire in the chair. Nearly all the noblemen and gentry of Ulster were present. The speakers included Lord Roden, Lord A. Hill Trevor, Mr. Verner, M.P., and Mr. Bruce, M.P. The attendance amounted to between 10,000 and 15,000. The proceedings were very orderly. Resolutions were adopted declaring determination to uphold inviolate their inherited rights and religion, and to transmit them unimpaired to future generations; that any alienation of the property of the United Church of England and Ireland would be a violation of the Act of Union, and unsettle the foundations of all rights of property, lay and ecclesiastical, throughout the kingdom. Petitions to the Queen and Houses of Parliament in furtherance of the objects of the meeting were adopted. All speakers strongly condemned interference with the endowment of the Irish Church, affirmed the presumptive title to its rights and revenues, and viewed with alarm the idea of disendowment, as certainly a preparatory step to increased demands, likely at length to shake the empire.

THE REPRESENTATION OF SOUTH LEICESTERSHIRE.—By the death of Mr. C. W. Packe, M.P., a vacancy has been occasioned in the representation of South Leicestershire. The last contest which took place in this division was in the year 1841, when Mr. Packe and Sir Henry Hallford, who represented the Conservative interest, were returned by a large majority over their opponents, Colonel Cheney and Mr. M. Gisborne. Since that time Mr. Packe had not been disturbed in his claim to the seat, which he had enjoyed uninterruptedly since 1836. Of late years, however, the register is said to have been greatly augmented by Liberal voters, and the position of parties to have become somewhat evenly balanced, and it was generally understood that a contest would take place at the next election. With this object, the Liberals have had in view Mr. Thomas Tertius Paget, of Humberstone, near Leicester, an eminent banker, whose father was one of the representatives of the county for a number of years prior to the passing of the Reform Bill of 1832. Mr. Paget will, it is understood, be a candidate for the vacant seat. In the Conservative interest several names have been mentioned; but the most likely gentleman to receive large support is Mr. Albert Pell, of Hazlebeach, Northampton, chairman of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, a magistrate of the county of Leicester, an extensive farmer, and son-in-law of Sir Henry Hallford, Bart. From the fact that this will be the first contest in the county since 1841, the result of the trial of strength of the two political parties is being looked forward to with an unusual degree of interest.

THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S QUARTERLY RETURNS.—The registers of the United Kingdom show that the births of 252,370 children and the deaths of 142,150 persons of both sexes were registered during the three months ending on Sept. 30. The resident population of the United Kingdom at this time is estimated at 30,167,239, that of England and Wales at 21,429,508, Scotland 3,170,769, Ireland 5,566,962. In England, during the quarter ending June 30, the number of persons married was 90,924, or 6122 fewer than in the corresponding period of the preceding year. This confirms previous experience that times of commercial depression and higher prices of wheat and potatoes are quickly followed by decrease in the number of marriages. There were 190,255 children registered as born in England during July, August, and September—a number greater than has ever been recorded during the same period, and 11,273 more than were registered in the summer of 1866. The number of deaths registered in the three months that ended on Sept. 30 was 108,462, and the annual rate of mortality was 20.06 in 1000; the average rate of the season is 20.31, and in the same three months of 1866, when cholera was epidemic in London and other places, the rate was 21.82 per 1000. Fewer deaths have been registered, and the rate of mortality has been lower than in any corresponding quarter since 1862. The death-rate experienced by about 11,000,000 of people inhabiting the chief towns was 22 per 1000, while rather more than 9,000,000 of persons residing in the small towns and country parishes had a mortality of somewhat less than 17 per 1000. In London and twelve other great towns in the United Kingdom the annual death-rate during the quarter was 23.7 per 1000; it was highest in Manchester, 26, and lowest in Bristol, 19 per 1000; in London it was 21, Birmingham 22, Liverpool 23, Salford 28, Sheffield 24, Leeds 29, Hull 26, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 30, Edinburgh, 23, Glasgow, 24, and Dublin 23.

INTERESTING ARCHEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY.—For some time past extensive improvements and alterations have been proposed to be made in the High Churches of Stirling. These churches are of very ancient date, and traces of them may be obtained so far back as prior to the fourteenth century. Some years ago it was proposed to erect a new transept at the entrance, and a considerable sum of money was collected, although by no means sufficient to erect the transept in a complete and satisfactory state. During the past year especially various proposals have been made to the Town Council and others interested for the improvement of these ancient edifices, named respectively the East and West Churches. The proposals generally have received the concurrence of most of the proctors, and the congregations and workmen have been engaged for some months past, and have commenced by taking down the gallery of the West Church. Mr. M'Lean, acting for the architect of the proposed new transept, has examined the unoccupied space above the present modern plaster ceiling of the West Church, and finds that there still exists the old oak roof of the thirteenth or fourteenth century, in all its completeness and harmony of massive oak carpentry. A tracing of this roof has been taken, and the wonder is that beauties which are now brought to light in this ancient church should ever have been concealed under a mass of meaningless plaster. The churches are situated at the head of the town of Stirling, contiguous to the ancient ruins of Mar's Work, at no great distance from the castle. Some years ago, in the course of excavations made at Mar's Work, undoubted evidences of a monastery having at one time existed there were exposed, probably enough connected with the churches. The interesting discovery of the old oak roof will doubtless engage the attention of those who take interest in these relics of the past; and, as the buildings are redolent of regal and historical associations, an effort will probably be made for the thorough and satisfactory restoration of all parts of these ancient edifices.

FRIGHTFUL RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN FRANCE.

ABOUT half-past seven o'clock on Sunday morning a terrible accident befel the train carrying the mail from England on the Northern Railway of France. A large number of persons were injured, but as yet no deaths are reported. The accident occurred at a distance of about fourteen miles from Paris, and was caused by a piece of carelessness which has yet to be explained. The train, proceeding at a speed of not less than thirty miles an hour, was met by an engine and tender coming in the contrary direction. As may be supposed, the two engines were merged in an indistinguishable wreck of confused broken iron, and the foremost carriages were smashed into splinters. Those in the rear of the train, however, sustained little damage, though the violence of the shock was such that hardly a single passenger escaped the effect of a severe shaking. The confusion was indescribably great, as may be inferred from the circumstance that, though the spot where the collision took place was within 300 yards of a station, two hours elapsed before water could be procured to moisten the lips of the wounded and dying. Much aggravation of suffering was caused by this seemingly inexplicable difficulty. Though, as above stated, the accident happened at half-past seven o'clock, it was ten before such of the injured persons as could bear removal were taken to Paris and placed under surgical care.

The extremely meagre account, officially communicated by the Northern Railway Company of France, of the accident near Paris on Sunday, is as follows:—"This morning, at seven, the express-train from Calais came into collision, at the Gonesse station, with a locomotive which was being shifted across the rails. Fourteen passengers have been injured or contused. They were brought on to Paris by special train, and, after having their injuries attended to, ten of their number were able to proceed to their homes. Two only were taken to a hospital. The driver of the express-train was mortally hurt, and the stoker and pointsman are said to have been killed. Two conductors and a railway servant employed at the station received contusions. Many persons in England are pardonably impatient of the official reticence which even suppresses the names of the sufferers. It must, however, be borne in mind that Continental railways are under State control, and French newspapers are very chary of meddling with them. The accident was no doubt, a serious one; but it turns out that nobody was killed then and there, though one person at least—the driver of the express-train—was mortally injured. The escapes were marvellous, as they often are in the most terrible of such disasters. There were eleven carriages in the train, and some of them were so thoroughly demolished that their mere floors were left upon the axletrees, giving them the appearance of trucks. Nearly all the carriages were, it is said, full of passengers. The two engines passed completely into each other. The guard's van was lifted into the air; the first passenger-carriage completely underran the van, and locked itself bodily in the tender of the engine. Out of this carriage several injured persons were drawn with extreme difficulty. The second carriage had contrived to get again upon the line of rails, or partly so, but its occupants suffered severely, some of them having undergone most terrible wounds about the face. The next carriage was deeply embedded in the ballast, and had been much struck with the fragments of the engines and tenders. Several passengers in it were severely contused, and some badly wounded. Among the female sufferers were some whose injuries were burns and scalds. Many of the passengers quite in the rear of the train were greatly injured, some from the main collision, and others from the many secondary collisions that were caused by the passage of the carriages over the broken-up way.

MR. MURPHY AT BOLTON.—Mr. Murphy, the anti-Popery lecturer, has been mobbed at Bolton. He was announced to lecture in one of the public rooms, but when he arrived there he found it was closed against him. A crowd of people gathered about, and, hooting Murphy, followed him to his lodgings. They smashed one of the windows there, and it was thought desirable to have the place guarded through the night. The next morning he was escorted to the station by a strong body of police, and departed for Blackburn.

RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATIONS.—In several metropolitan parishes ratepayers' associations are being formed. In the parish of St. Mary, Newington, Surrey, one has just been called into existence. Among the objects of the association are the following:—To obtain an equitable assessment of the houses and property in the parish; to watch vigilantly parochial expenditure; to promote the election of those ratepayers to parochial offices who are known to be men of strict integrity and of economic principles; to induce the ratepayers to attend vestry meetings, and thereby maintain their rights; to obtain an equalisation of the poor rates throughout the metropolis. The association also proposes to take steps to have the duty received by the Government on public vehicles, &c., applied to the repair of the roads; to obtain reliable information of all bequests and charities and their administration; to keep a register of the same for consultation, as well as a register of all lands, houses, and hereditaments the property of the ratepayers of the parish, and the conditions under which the same are held. The tenth object of the association is, "To do all such other things as shall be incidental or conducive to the economical, yet at the same time effective, administration of the parochial affairs of St. Mary, Newington, in the county of Surrey." A president (Mr. W. Malthouse), a vice-president (Mr. J. Brooks), a treasurer (Mr. W. H. Day, M.R.C.S.), a committee, auditors, solicitor, and treasurer have been appointed to the association, which is now commencing operations in the parish.

UNJUST WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.—Last Saturday the following report was made to the Vestry of St. Pancras of persons who had been fined for using false weights and scales:—George Calvert, Phoenix-street, Somers Town, general dealer, one pair of scales quarter ounce against purchaser; second offence, 5s. John Edwards, 26, Hampden-street, Somers Town, marine-store dealer, one pair of scales three quarters of an ounce against the purchaser; first offence, 5s. Isaac Jacobs, 56, Cromer-street, Gray's-inn-road, marine-store dealer, one pair of scales one ounce against the purchaser; second offence, 20s. George Holland, 217, Gray's-inn-road, butcher, one pair of scales quarter ounce against purchaser; second offence, 20s. John Bennett, 107, King's-cross-road, eating-house keeper, one pair of scales quarter ounce against purchaser; second offence, 20s. John Waight, 137, King's-cross-road, cheesemonger, two pairs of scales quarter ounce against purchaser; second offence, 20s. Thomas Fraser, 40, Britannia-street, Gray's-inn-road, marine-store dealer, one pair of scales quarter ounce against purchaser; first offence, 10s.

STEERING AND SAILING RULES.—"Aids to Memory, in Rhyme," by Thomas Gray, A.L.N.A. (Assistant Secretary Board of Trade).

Two Steam Ships Meeting.
Meeting Steamers do not dread
When you see Three Lights ahead—
Port your helm, and show your RED.

Two Steam Ships Passing.
GREEN to GREEN—or, RED to RED—
Perfect safety—Go ahead!

Two Steam Ships Crossing.
If to your Starboard RED appear,
It is your duty to keep clear.
To not as judgment says is proper—
To Port—or Starboard—Back—or, Stop her.
But when upon your Port is seen
A Steamer's Starboard light of GREEN,
There's a 'not so much' for you to do,
The GREEN light must keep clear of you.

General Caution.
Both in safety and in doubt
Always keep a good look-out;
In danger, with no room to turn,
Ease her!—Stop her!—Go astern!

SHODDY.—Under the name of shoddy an enormous weight of material is now used which was waste. Shoddy was first brought into use about 1813, at Batley, near Dewsbury. Mungo was adopted in the same district, but at a later period. Shoddy is the produce of soft woollen rags, such as old worn-out carpets, flannels, guernseys, stockings, and similar fabrics. Mungo is the produce of worn-out broad or similar cloths of fine quality, and of the shreds and clippings of cloth. The Pollution of Rivers Commission, which has been visiting Yorkshire, was informed of the origin of the word "mungo." A manufacturer gave some of the materials to his foreman, who, after trial in the shoddy-machines, came back with the remark, "It winna go;" when the master exclaimed, "But it mungo." These old woollen rags are collected and imported from India, China, Egypt, Turkey, Russia, and, in fact, all parts of the world where woollen garments are worn. They come to Yorkshire from districts where plague, fever, smallpox, and loathsome skin diseases extensively prevail; they are sorted by human fingers when the bales are opened before being placed in machines which tear up, separate, and cleanse the fibre for manufacture; but the Rivers Commission mention that fifty years' experience has proved that these rags are not in any degree dangerous to the health of those who work among them, although in many of the countries where they are collected they are believed to be peculiarly plague-bearing materials. The lapse of time in collecting, sorting, and transmitting the rags, and the possible destruction of any special poison by friction or otherwise, must be taken into account. The dirt, dust, and fine particles blown out by the machines are collected and sold for manure at from 10s. to 20s. per ton. The shoddy trade is a remarkable instance of the utilisation of waste material. It forms nearly one fifth in weight of the woollen and worsted manufacture of the West Riding. Mixed with wool, shoddy or mungo is largely used in the manufacture of cheap broadcloths, finer cloths for ladies' capes and mantles, pilots, winterys, friezes, petshams, penjackets, and blankets. A considerable quantity is used in the form of flocks for beds. Felted cloth is extensively manufactured with it, and used for table-covers, carpets, druggets, and horse-cloths. From seventy to eighty million pounds weight of shoddy and extracts are used in a year in the woollen trade of this kingdom. The trade could not be carried on to its present extent without shoddy.

ABATTOIRS FOR THE METROPOLIS.

THE Corporation of London have now under consideration a scheme for erecting, at an estimated expense of £36,550, a number of additional slaughterhouses at the Metropolitan Cattle-market, with all the necessary conveniences, and with the ultimate object of connecting them by railway with the new Meat and Poultry Market which the City authorities are now erecting in Smithfield. The subject has been investigated by their markets' committee, who have made a report upon it to the Court of Common Council, and embodying the results of a visit made by the chairman (Mr. Radkin), and the City architect to the abattoirs in Paris, Edinburgh, and at Liverpool. Their attention has been directed to certain provisions in the Building Act, under the operation of which many of the present slaughterhouses in the metropolis will in the year 1871 cease to exist. They have also had under consideration the provisions of the Newgate-market Abolition Act, under which the various slaughterhouses in the vicinity of that market will, in all probability, be removed; and, having regard to the strong and increasing feeling, not only on the part of the Government and the Legislature, but also of the public at large, that every possible means should be adopted to prevent, as far as practicable, the driving of cattle through the streets of the metropolis, they are of opinion that it is highly desirable that additional slaughter-houses should be erected at the Metropolitan Cattle-market. The necessity for such an arrangement, as a preventive measure, has been further impressed upon the civic authorities by circumstances arising out of the cattle plague. The site that has been commended itself to them for the purpose is a piece of ground, about eight acres in extent, on the east side of the market contiguous to the Great Northern Railway, and sufficient for fifty-five slaughterhouses; but the City architect, who has prepared the necessary plans and estimates, only recommends the immediate erection of twenty-two, with all the necessary appurtenances, and the construction of a wharf and other works with a view to their future communication with the Great Northern line, whenever that shall be agreed upon by the Corporation and the company. He has also submitted to the committee a small general plan of London and its suburbs, with the site of the existing market at Islington, and all the various lines of railway round or through the metropolis, showing clearly that convenient communication could readily be made with the market and abattoirs and the country generally, as well as the metropolis itself. When in Paris he and the chairman of the committee inspected the old abattoirs, and also a very large new one, partly erected and in use and partly in progress, which, when completed, they say, will supply the whole of the French metropolis, and consequently supplant all others. It is designed after a plan similar to that of the old abattoirs, and neither care nor expense has been spared to render it perfect. Various other abattoirs in different cities and towns of the Continent have also been built, following generally, in character and arrangement, those of Paris; but the City architect considers those in Edinburgh the most perfect, though, of course, on a much smaller scale than anything of the kind required in London. For the estimated outlay of £36,550 the architect calculates that an annual revenue of about £1680 would probably be derived by the Corporation from the slaughterhouses proposed to be erected in conjunction with the Metropolitan Cattle-market. The proposal has yet to be confirmed by the Court of Common Council; but, having regard to the advantages likely to accrue from it in practice in a sanitary point of view, and especially as tending to the cessation of cattle-driving through the public streets, there can be little doubt that it will receive a favourable consideration from them.—Times.

THE MURDERED SAILORS IN JAPAN.—A correspondent in Japan forwards the following, concerning two unfortunate seamen of the Royal Navy, who were found murdered in the streets of Nagasaki, each by a single sword cut:—"On the night of the 5-6th of August, two seamen of H.M.S. Icarus, on leave from their ship, lying in the harbour, were found dead in the streets of Nagasaki. The corpses lay in the gutter outside a house of refreshment. They had been last seen alive at ten p.m. by some of their shipmates, when they were sober; and their corpses were discovered at one a.m. by the Japanese police. The murder would appear to have been effected in a systematic manner, on perfectly unresisting victims, who were most probably sleeping in a recumbent or semi-recumbent position, as the wound in each case was single and in both cases similar. It was a clear incision, like a sword-cut, across the front of the neck and chest, passing obliquely downwards from right to left, and almost severing the head from the trunk, so that death must have been instantaneous; and, in fact, the bodies and hands bore no signs of struggling, and were free from minor cuts and contusions.

THE NATIONAL COVENANT OF SCOTLAND.—A correspondent informs us that a very interesting and valuable document happens to be in Inverness at present, being one of the actual originals of the National Covenant of Scotland, signed in the year 1635. It is written on strong vellum in a fine hand, and is subscribed by hundreds of names, prominent among which are those of Montrose, Rothes, Drumlaig, Elcho, Wemyss, Balcanquhall, Leslie, and others. About twenty of the names are penned with blood. This is one of the few sheets which were got up in 1638, the better to facilitate signing the great national protest in different parts of the country. There may be more, but we know only of two other of the sheets being now in existence. One of these is in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh, and the other was disposed of to Government by the trustees of the late Marquis of Breadalbane, in whose family it had remained since the time his ancestor appended his name to the document. The present copy is in good preservation, and is without doubt a genuine relic of the late Marquis of Breadalbane, in whose family it had remained since the time his ancestor appended his name to the document. The present copy is in good preservation, and is without doubt a genuine relic of the late Marquis of Breadalbane, in whose family it had remained since the time his ancestor appended his name to the document.

THE HULL STATUE OF ANDREW MARVEL.—On Monday a marble statue of Andrew Marvel, executed by Mr. W. D. Keyworth, jun., of Hull and London, and presented to the town by Mr. Winship, was inaugurated at the Townhall, Hull. The ceremony took place on the ground landing, where the statue has been placed. There were present the Mayor (Alderman Loft), Mr. James Clay, M.P., Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Pease, Captain Von Donop (H.M.S. Dauntless), &c. The Mayor, after briefly opening the proceedings, called upon Mr. Winship to make the presentation. Mr. Winship stated that, fortune having smiled upon him, he had felt a strong desire to give to the town a lasting and substantial memorial of one of those men of whom they were so justly proud, and after long and careful thought he had fixed upon presenting a statue of the illustrious patriot and senator Andrew Marvel. He therefore begged that the Corporation would, on behalf of the town, accept the statue. The town clerk having read the deed of gift, the Mayor, after having made some remarks, called upon Mr. James Clay, M.P., to formally unveil the statue. Mr. Clay, in doing so, remarked that the fact of this statue being a memorial of a Hull man whose name had become illustrious, and that it had been executed by a Hull artist who was acquiring a great and deserved reputation, was a contradiction of the old proverb that a prophet had no honour in his own country. Andrew Marvel was one who distinguished himself by his incorruptible patriotism in an age when corruption was almost universal. The statue was then formally unveiled, amid loud applause. Lieutenant-Colonel Pease called for three cheers for the donor, which were heartily given, as were also three cheers for the artist.

THE TAILORS' STRIKE.—A few weeks ago we announced that this agitation, which during the summer induced so much loss to masters and misery to employed, had concluded by the unconditional submission of the operatives. There are some details in connection with the movement which may be interesting at the present time, when the whole nation is narrowly watching the attitudes of trades union societies. The number of houses in which the strike prevailed was, it may be remembered, about ninety, and the number of men who took part in it about 2800. Most of these were skilled workmen from West-End houses, and the sacrifice they made in vindication of a mistaken principle may be estimated when we state that they remained out of employment fully six months—that is to say, from April to October. The average receipts per week of each of these men during that period of the year may be taken at about £2, so that, making allowance for "scale" to which each man on strike was entitled during the continuance of the agitation, the loss to the operatives who took part in the movement must have been something like £70,000 (on the men's own showing it was more), or about £25 per head. For this the only return they have obtained is a loss of confidence in the trade and final and decided defeat. At the beginning of October about 200 of those who had struck returned to the shops in which they had been formerly employed, 200 found work in co-operative establishments instituted by the men, while a similar number availed themselves of the scheme of emigration which had been devised for improving the labour market at home. The shops in which the strike did not prevail gave work to 500 more, so that about 1000 remained out of employment at the beginning of last month. Still more recently the difficulties which presented themselves in the way of continuing the movement—the impossibility of carrying it on with any efficacious result without picketing, and the decided violation of the law which would be committed by the continuance of that system—induced the committee of the operatives' association to recommend the men on strike to surrender on the terms which the masters would propose, one condition, however, being reserved—namely, that the operatives should not be compelled to leave the union before resuming work. The masters, with judicious forbearance, took back the men without demanding any such concession. The extraordinary levies made on the trade during the strike have been reduced by order of the committee to the normal payment of 6d. per head per week, and the annual meeting of the association will be held in November, when the balance-sheet of the association kept during the strike will be submitted to the society. A scheme will also be presented for the consolidation of the operative tailors throughout the kingdom into one amalgamated association. With a view to this result a series of public meetings are being held in various districts of the metropolis for the formation of district branches of the operatives' society. The men contend, with a pertinacity which is only equalled by the fallacy of their argumentation, that they have won a victory, though they are not able to pursue it further. They admit, however, that the London masters are the most liberal in England; and they allege that the strike was undertaken not through any vindictive feeling, but for the maintenance of a principle.

TEASDALE Blackfriars dealer in Jungtistal watches — 73

A fellow who was arrested on a charge of shooting a policeman addressed an adverse witness in abusive terms as "a copper's nark." The term had to be explained as meaning a policeman's spy. Why is a policeman termed a "copper"? We furnish the etymology as somewhat curious. It is not on account of any analogy between a constable and a metal. A "copper," in slang, is one who "cops." To "cop," in the same dialect, is to take, and comes direct from the Latin "Capio—capere," properly pronounced with the broad sound of the *a*. The Universities have, it is well known, much to do with the foundation of slang.

On remand the prisoner was fined £10.

which was taken by the accused. The trunk of Vincent was found in the Seine on March 19, but no traces of the murderer were discovered until after the body of Duguet had been found, in its turn, when the similarity of the circumstances showed that the two crimes had been committed by the same person. When Aynalin was arrested, he had still in his possession a knife and a hatchet which had belonged to Vincent. On the trial the prisoner endeavoured to explain the death of that victim by a story of a quarrel and a blow given in anger, as he had done in the case of Duguet. The jury returned a verdict of "Guilty," without the admission of any extenuating circumstances, and sentence of death was passed. The prisoner heard his condemnation without manifesting the slightest emotion.

doing :—Alliance, 13 $\frac{1}{4}$; Bank of New Zealand, 18 $\frac{1}{4}$; Chartered

milliner. W. SHILLABEER, Kilburn Park, builder.—J. T.

Rusholme, — J. LOCKE, Bristol, manufacturing perfumer. — J. H.

Box 4 or obtained through any Chemist.

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